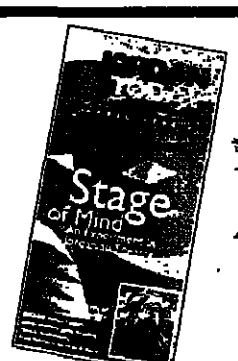


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AMMAN, 18-24 APRIL, 1996, VOLUME 6, NUMBER 50, 350 fills

Diplomatic efforts intensify as Israeli raids enter second week

TEL AVIV, BEIRUT. South Lebanon (Agencies)—As diplomats pursued their search for a cease-fire, Israeli helicopters and warplanes have kept up their onslaught against targets in Lebanon for the eighth day running.

At the same time, Lebanese guerrillas fired more volleys of Katyusha rockets into northern Israel, continuing a cycle of attack and counterattack that has killed more than 30 people since last Thursday, all of them in Lebanon and most of them Lebanese civilians.



Two of his bodyguards, but he was away and unhurt, according to Lebanese police quoted by news agencies.

and demonstrated that its Syrian protectors are unable to protect it.

Lebanese Prime Minister Rafiq Hariri, who received the draft in Saudi Arabia from the US consul general in Jeddah, told Lebanon's official National News Agency that "there is a difficulty in accepting it in its current form."

Syrian President Hafez Assad, on whom Israeli and American officials said the diplomatic outcome depends, gave no sign of his views. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, who phoned Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Charara from Japan, has not spoken to Assad, and neither has US ambassador Christopher Ross in Damascus.

Peres, who met extensively with the US ambassador to Israel, Martin Indyk, in the time the United States was drafting the proposal, said he welcomes American efforts but

American diplomats conducted parallel negotiations in Israel, Lebanon and Syria Wednesday seeking to win agreement on a US cease-fire proposal to halt the intense six-day-old Israeli offensive in Lebanon.

The draft truce, conveyed to the three governments Monday and discussed further Tuesday, was said by Israeli and Lebanese officials to be closely tied to Israel's central demands at the start of its assault last Thursday.

Among its provisions are said to be a guaranteed halt to rocket fire from Lebanese territory into Israel's northern Galilee region, an end to attacks on Israeli troops in southern Lebanon from civilian population centers nearby and a resumption of Israeli-Syrian peace

talks that were cut off by Prime Minister Shimon Peres last month.

Meanwhile, diplomatic efforts to end the fighting are continuing. The French foreign minister is making his second visit to Israel in three days, after spending Tuesday in Beirut and Damascus, and, a senior Israeli government minister has flown to the United States—which has been working to mediate a ceasefire, as it did to end a similar wave of fighting in 1993. Officials say the negotiations are likely to be long and difficult, while the fighting continues.

Israel says it launched more than one thousand air strikes and 11-thousand artillery shells into Lebanon during the first six days of fighting. Hundreds of Katyushas have hit northern Israel.

Five civilians, including a 2-year-old Lebanese girl, were killed Tuesday in rocket attacks on Lebanese guerrilla offices and installations in the southern Beirut suburbs, reports from Lebanon said.

Israeli gunships also loosed a rocket barrage at the house of a Palestinian guerrilla leader, Col. Munir Makdah, in the Ein Hilweh refugee camp near Sidon. The attack, the first against a Palestinian target in the current offensive, wounded Makdah's 2-year-old son and

Michel Khleifi raconte son conte

A LIRE p. 12 dans LE JOURDAIN

11 deputies call for annulment of peace treaty

By Hamdan Al Haj
Special to The Star

ELEVEN DEPUTIES, mostly members of the IAF, called Wednesday for the annulment of the Jordanian-Israeli Peace Treaty Law to protest the latest Israeli aggression on Lebanon.

The deputies, nine from the IAF and two independents, were among other deputies, including ministers who met informally under the chairmanship of Deputy Speaker Sheikh Abdel Baqi Jammo.

In a signed petition, the 11 deputies said the peace treaty contradicts the provisions of the joint Arab Defense Treaty. They added that the treaty did not bring material benefits and that the economic situation in the country was worsening.

They criticized the Likud and Labor parties for their insistence on declaring Jerusalem as the Israel's unified capital and pointed that Israel has refused to dismantle its nuclear arsenal.

Those signing the petition included Hamdan Said, Theib Anis, Bassam Umoush, Abdel Aziz Jaber, Toujan Faisal and Talal Obaidat.

They called on the government to freeze the peace treaty, expel Israel's ambassador in Amman and recall the Jordanian ambassador in Tel Aviv. They also demanded that the government stop all dealings with Israel.

The deputies described what is going on in Lebanon as a war of annihilation and said Israel aims at



Jordanians condemn Israel's attack on Lebanon

By Marwan Asmar
Star Staff Writer

IT'S THE re-enactment of 1982 when Israel invaded Lebanon. Once again, the massive attacks which started last week, are typified by bombing, air raids and constant shelling by Israeli guns of mostly civilian targets in Lebanon, from the north to the south.

"It's a military version of the collective punishment that was imposed on the Palestinians in the aftermath of the suicide bombings (25 February)," Dr Labeed Kamhawi, a human rights activist, told The Star. "Israel is carrying out carpet bombings of the south of Lebanon without discrimination. This is not a preventive act as much as it is an onslaught, a genocide against the inhabitants of the south of Lebanon," said Kamhawi.

"The Israelis are getting away with murder. What is being done in the West Bank and Gaza and now in Lebanon is totally unacceptable," the Director of the Center of Strategic Studies at the University of Jordan, Dr Mustapha Hamameh said.

"The Israelis are reverting to basic and primitive measures to deal with the vague notion of security. This basically means that they deal with the Palestinians, Lebanese and other Arabs as lesser human beings. The West accepts this," he added.

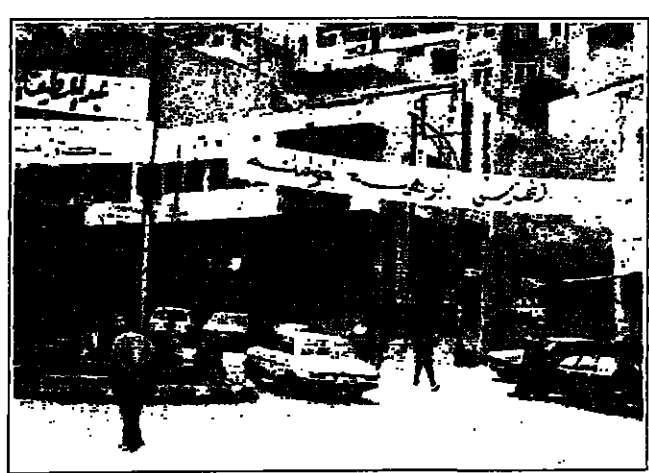
Dr Hamameh maintains that the attacks prove that the Israelis are still solving their problems in the old fashioned way of resorting to violence and "sometimes overwhelming violence."

What has been on everybody's mind is the peace process and the disturbing events that such Israeli actions are likely to incur. Israel talks peace but makes flagrant war, it is argued. The derailment of the peace process is now a very strong possibility. "(The attacks) are proof that the peace process is the peace of the strongest; it is a peace as long as it is in harmony with Israeli objectives and Israeli requirements. Once there is any violation of these requirements, then peace does not exist for the Israelis," Dr Kamhawi said. "You can't impose peace on people by the use of sheer power and force which the Israelis are doing at the moment," he added.

The president of the Democratic Unity Party, Mr Issa Mdanat was vehement in his attack on Israel. "We are for peace. But we

Balqa by-elections; same slogans, same promises

By Munther Hamdan
Special to The Star



Balqa elections: A lackluster campaign matched by voters' apathy

THIS WEEK'S victory of Hani Masalha Al Abbadi in the Balqa by-elections was another reminder that Jordanian electoral system is tribalist at heart. If there is a moral to be learned it is that candidates are unlikely to win in areas outside Amman if they are not supported by their clans. The withdrawal of two other Abbadi candidates, just days before the election, tipped the balance in favor of the winner who received 7325 votes.

Another lesson from the Balqa by-elections, is that for most Jordanians, winning a seat in Parliament is the fastest way to get into national politics, and the shortest to join the government. This was evident from the large number of hopeful candidates who competed in last Monday's poll to fill the seat, which became vacant following the death of deputy Ibrahim Shihdeh. In all 15 candidates stood for the election.

But the abundance of candidates was not matched by high voter turn-out. Only 29,135 out

of 87,000 registered voters turned up at the 76 polling stations in the Balqa governorate. In Salt, only 20 percent of the 28,682 registered voters went to the ballots. "Until noon, only 377 out of 2741 voters registered at this polling station had voted," said Muhammad Al Hiyari, chairman of a polling station at the Salt Secondary School for Boys. "The number is expected to rise in

Ambulance driver denies he has Hezbollah ties

By Nicholas Goldberg
LA Times-Washington Post News Service

TYRE, Lebanon—In a darkened parking garage beneath this virtually deserted port city, Abbas Jihah is lying on a mattress in a makeshift refugee camp reconsidering the moment that devastated his life.

It was last Saturday, he said, on the third day of the ongoing Israeli offensive. He was fleeing his village in an ambulance—driving his family out, he said, in obedience to the Israeli warnings—when a helicopter came from nowhere, and rocketed them from above.

The ambulance exploded in a ball of fire, and his wife was killed instantly, along with his 2-month-old baby girl and two older daughters. He also has two sons. Two other people in the crowded ambulance died as well.

"I heard a really loud whistling noise ... and all of a sudden, everything just shattered," he said. "I was lost. My family was right there in front of me, dying ... I wished I was dead along with them."

For many, the image of the exploding ambulance—captured by a Lebanese photographer and published all over the world—served as powerful symbolism: the dead bodies in the back seat, the father running down the road carrying his two, small, bleeding babies. For many, it also raised serious questions that had not yet been asked: whether the Israelis were, as they said they were, targeting their air strikes with surgical precision at Hezbollah strongholds, and limiting civilian casualties whenever possible, or whether the war against the guerrillas—in which virtually all the dead so far have been civilians—had become unnecessarily indiscriminate.

The Israelis, for their part, insisted they had made no mistake, and that the driver had been positively identified as a Hezbollah terrorist. If there were civilians in the ambulance, they said, they were being used as cover for his escape. A front-page headline in the Israeli newspaper *Yediot Aharnot* the day after the bombing carried a picture of the mangled vehicle under the headline "Ambulance of Terror."

"The children were carried ... into an ambulance that was identified as a truck of the Hezbollah, and the driver was a Hezbollah man, clearly," said Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres at a news conference on the night of the bombing. "I regret he took children into this vehicle."

Tuesday, chief government spokesman Uri Dromi reiterated those comments, saying that Jihah was "a known Hezbollah activist."

But so far, Israel has offered no evidence to substantiate its charges. And Jihah insists emphatically that the accusations are baseless.

Continued on page 2

New Turkey-Israel military deal raises regional eyebrows

By Hugh Pope
LA Times-The Washington Post News Service

ISTANBUL—Israeli fighter pilots can soon escape the narrow confines of the Jewish state to train over the broad plains and rugged mountains of Turkey, under a trend-setting, new military cooperation agreement that has upset Muslim strategists from Cairo to Tehran.

Egyptians say it could upset

the Middle East peace process and shift the balance of power in the region. Iranians say it is part of a Zionist plot. Even in Turkey, up-and-coming Islamists say that signing Israel's first major military deal with a Muslim state is a betrayal of the Palestinians.

"Turkey has always carried the shame of being the first Muslim country to recognize Israel," wrote Mehmet Serpolat in the daily *Milli Gazete*, organ of the pro-Islamic opposition Welfare Party, now Turkey's biggest political grouping. "For the past two years, (the government) has planned with the CIA and Mossad the erasing of political Islam from the Middle East."

Faced with a barrage of criticism and questions, spooked by the strength of pro-Islamic factions and getting no support from the weak, month-old center-right coalition led by Prime Minister Mesut Yilmaz, the Turkish foreign ministry has been forced onto the defensive. "This agreement is aimed at no third country," spokesman Omer Akbel said, adding that Israeli planes on training missions would be carrying no weaponry or intelligence-gathering equipment.

A foreign ministry statement added: "Turkey and Israel have developed their relations in many ways since the start of the Middle East peace process. At the United Nations, we have always voted with Arab countries on the need to return the Occupied Territories."

The military cooperation agreement signed in February is a substantial document in itself, including joint military training, exchanges between military academies and participation of observers in each

other's exercises.

The deal is part of a wider picture of rapidly improving relations that include a free trade agreement and a \$650 million arms contract—financed by Israeli banks with a \$410 million Israeli government guarantee—to upgrade the electronic warfare capacity of Turkey's F-4 Phantom warplanes.

Eitan Naeh, a spokesman for the Israeli Embassy in Turkey, put the expanding relations with Turkey in the context of an "open-ended" attempt "to create a wider camp of countries who support the peace process."

Unlike the Arabs and Iranians, Turkey has no bilateral or ideological problems with Israel. The government usually voices pride in good relations with its small Jewish community. On the other hand, Turkey's relations with Syria and Iran are plagued with difficulties.

"In theory, Turkey's policy is to be friendly to all. But, willingly or unwillingly, Turkey is being pushed into a kind of bloc," said Sami Kohen, *Milliyet* newspaper's senior foreign affairs commentator. He was referring to a loose, emerging grouping of Middle East countries broadly allied with the goals of the United States and the peace process.

Egypt, well-rewarded with US aid for its role in opening up relations between Arab states and Israel, has, however, reacted negatively to Turkey's flirtation with Israel. Officials in Cairo say it would upset the military balance that is at the heart of the 5-year-old US-backed attempt to negotiate a lasting peace between Israel

Continued on page 2

Egyptians take to their water pipes

By John Lancaster
LA Times-Washington Post News Service

CAIRO—In another part of the world, perhaps, an up-and-coming young lawyer like Hussein Osman might while away free time at the gym, or downing beers at the corner pub. But this is Egypt, so Osman pursues another form of recreation: sitting at his neighborhood coffee shop and puffing meditatively on a water pipe.

"Unfortunately, I'm very faithful to the shisha," Osman, 29, said, using the common Egyptian term for the glass-and-copper contraption smoldering near his black wings.

"I wouldn't want to have it in the office. It would stop me from working."

Commonly filled with a sticky, tar-like blend of tobacco and molasses, the shisha has long been a fixture of Cairo's ubiquitous coffee

houses, where patrons gossip and joke over tiny wrought-iron tables and endless glasses of sweet tea.

But the shisha is more than a quaint anachronism. To the consternation of health workers and Islamic scholars, shisha smoking among young people and women in Egypt has surged, especially in urban areas, even as cigarette consumption is leveling off.

"Twenty-five years ago, you wouldn't see a 25-year-old man smoke a shisha," said Akram Fishawi, 38, seventh-generation owner of the famous Fishawi coffee shop and a dedicated shisha smoker.

"Only older people would smoke it."

Also known as the narghile or hubble-bubble, for the sound smoke makes bubbling through a water-filled chamber, the shisha is no longer confined to coffee shops and homes, having spread to five-star hotels



Osman described himself as a former athlete who was introduced to the habit by friends in 1989 and now spends close to five hours a day in the cafe, using about 10 bowls of the tobacco mix.

and Red Sea resorts catering to European tourists.

Over the past decade, tobacco producers have introduced fruit-flavored brands aimed at women, and there is talk of exporting shisha to the United States.

Introduced to Egypt by the Ottoman Turks in the 17th century, shisha has changed little in modern times. A clay bowl, a haggard is filled with the tobacco and molasses mixture, then covered with charcoal embers. Smokers puff on a flexible leather tube, tending the embers with tiny metal tongs. Coffee shops charge about 30 cents for one bowl, which lasts about 30 minutes.

As on most afternoons,

Osman was sitting next to another 29-year-old lawyer, Yahya Zakaria, a friend and former Cairo University classmate who blamed a surfeit of "empty time" for his shisha habit. "Television doesn't satisfy me," said Zakaria, who, like Osman, is unmarried.

Shisha has a long way to go to eclipse cigarettes in Egypt, with water-pipe smokers accounting for perhaps 11 percent of Egyptians who smoke, according to Sharif Omar, secretary general of the Egyptian Cancer Society.

Surveys indicate 30 to 40 percent of Egyptian men and 1 to 3 percent of women smoke tobacco in any form, although the actual numbers are probably higher, health professionals say. But after peaking in 1986, cigarette smoking in Egypt has fallen slightly. At the same time, the World Health Organization said in a recent report, higher cigarette price apparently have "increased use of hookahs and other types of water pipes."

Magda Khairou, a journalist and film critic, was enjoying a

bowl of apple-flavored tobacco—"It's better for women; it's light"—on the terrace of the Nile Hilton one recent evening. Khairou, 40, said she acquired the habit "from friends" about three years ago and indulges in a shisha about twice a week.

At the Fishawi cafe, Mohammed Ali, 17, sat puffing on a shisha with three friends. "We want to look like older people," he explained.

"Cigarettes are worse because you can always carry them with you," said Fishawi, the coffee-shop owner. "It's different with the shisha. You have to go somewhere, light the charcoal. It's more complicated."

There is some evidence the water helps filter cancer-causing chemicals, according to the cancer society's Omar. But he emphasized the smoke is still harmful. Moreover, he added, sharing a mouthpiece can lead to transmission of infectious disease, including tuberculosis—which is one reason Fishawi offers disposable plastic mouthpieces.

World Report

is expected to support before the end of the year. Also it will support the peace process in the region involving Japan, China and the United States over its persistent opposition to the result in a second round of negotiations. The result would force Japan to accept one of the



JORDAN

W E E K

An unconventional report on Jordanian news and views edited by Awni Abu Ghosh



Kabariti visits Israel

Jordanian diplomatic efforts with regard to the Lebanese crisis heightened as Prime Minister Kabariti went rushing to Tel Aviv last week. He carried a message from His Majesty King Hussein to Israel's President Ezer Weizman and Prime Minister Shimon Peres expressing concern at Israel's escalating military bombardment in Lebanon.

At a joint press conference, Tuesday, Mr Kabariti said "there is a sense of alarm in Jordan and within the Jordanian public." He added that the situation is "explosive" and could escalate. "We want to save the peace and want to preserve its achievements and build upon it," he said. "We think that the situation is not really conducive to maintain and restore the tracks that were running smoothly and which were giving all the signals that peace could in fact be comprehensive." Mr Kabariti later said the talks with Mr Peres were "very frank."

Meanwhile, King Hussein contacted Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah and Defence Minister Prince Sultan as well as Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak expressing concern over the situation in Lebanon.

US warplanes patrol Iraq from Jordan

Operation "Eager Tiger" was on its way Saturday with the participation of 30 F-15 and F-16 US fighters and 4 tanker jets, which are stationed in Azraq air base. The US fighters, supported by over 1100 ground personnel, will be in Jordan until mid-June to provide the Royal Jordanian Air Force with valuable first-hand knowledge of operating the F-16s, which the RJA hopes to receive in 1997. In a joint press conference Saturday, Brig. Gen. Bill Looney, the commander of the "Airpower Expeditionary Force" which is authorized to enforce a UN-mandated "no-fly" zone over southern Iraq, stated that the AEF is here as part of the American effort to maintain a constant level of force in support of operation Southern Watch Coalition over southern Iraq.

Brig. Mohammad Ababneh, chief of staff of the RJA, said the main objective of the exercises is to train Jordanian pilots and ground support crew.

The American planes in Jordanian airspace will not be close to the Iraqi border but will carry their mission over Iraq by flying into Saudi airspace, reports said.

Lawyers elections on Friday

Dr Kamal Nasser's resignation as president of the Jordanian Lawyers Association (JLA) to become Minister of Administrative Development, has left the JLA in an unprecedented situation, that of having to fill the vacant post.

Seven prominent lawyers are contesting: Omar Damra, Khalaf Masaadeh, Jawad Yunis, Saleh Armoti, Ziad Khasawneh, Hussein Mjalli, and Mohammed Al 'Ousd.

Mr Damra (independent) said that if elected, he would work for the moral and material promotion of the lawyers status and for the further enactment and development of the JLA's rules. Al Armoti (Islamist) proceeds in his program from the decisions of the JLA general assembly by emphasizing his determination to combat factionalism, sectarianism and regionalism. Hussein Mjalli (nationalist) calls for the

restructuring of the legal profession in a way that serves the law and its supremacy in society.

Akram Zueiter passes away

Akram Zueiter, who passed away last week, was a man of immense proportion. Not only was he a great nationalist, but also an astute politician. He dedicated his life to seeking freedom and fighting against colonialism.



Zueiter

Zueiter was born in 1909 in Nablus where he completed his higher studies at Al Najah College. He joined the AUB and then the Law College in Jerusalem. Zueiter began his life as a teacher at secondary schools in Palestine but stopped teaching when the revolution of 1929 erupted. He became chief editor for the Jerusalem-based *Muraat Al Shark* newspaper. After that he was expelled to Nablus because of his nationalist activities. Shortly afterwards, he was allowed to return to Jerusalem to become the chief editor of *Al Hayat*.

After that he was again forced back to Nablus. While teaching at Al Najah College, he threw himself into political activity. He established Al Istiqlal Party and became deeply involved in the growing nationalist movement in Syria. After clashes between Palestinians and British forces, Zueiter called for the formation of national committees to lead the struggle. He became a

secretary of the Nablus committee which called for a strike that lasted for six months and paved the way for the 1936 revolution.

In 1947 Zueiter headed a delegation to Latin American to defend the Palestinian question.

He participated in several national and Islamic conferences and represented Jordan in the 16th session of the UN. In 1963 he became Jordan's Ambassador to Syria and was made a senator in the Upper House in 1967.

He wrote many books about the history of the national Palestinian movement.

Jordanian youth murdered in Iraq

The three Jordanian youths that were killed in Iraq by a gang were buried last week in the Sahab cemetery. The attacks were so violent that the head of one of the youths was severed. Another lost an arm and a leg. The third was shot in the chest. The Iraqi television had previously said they were missing and it offered a large reward for their whereabouts. The youths had gone to Iraq by a truck, but they disappeared soon after.

Begging: A social evil

Begging is an increasing phenomena in the world's major cities. Jordan has its fair share. The recent measures by the Ministry of Social Development and the Public Security Dept., to curb the phenomena is to be applauded. However, these two government agencies should really look at the root causes of such activity: poverty. Unless this is eradicated, you will always have beggars on our streets.

They say there's a clean-up campaign in state departments, luckily I already shower three times a day!



Jamal Rihail/Ad Dintour

Bombardment of Lebanon must be stopped

The nine-opposition party held a sit-in Tuesday outside the UN headquarters in Shmeisani in solidarity with the Lebanese people.

More than a 100 people turned up, and chanted outside the offices of the UN for more than two hours appealing for a stop to "the barbaric attacks carried out by Israel against the Lebanese people."

Holding banners denouncing the aggression, the demonstrators condemned Israel's indiscriminate killing of children, women and the elderly, and the forcing of about half a million citizens to leave their homes in the south.

The demonstrators included general secretaries of political parties, representatives from women's organizations, former ministers and private citizens.

Personalities included IAF secretary general Dr Ishaq Al Farhan, Ibrahim Ghoshe, the Hamas representative, Ali Farid Al Saad, the Progress and Justice general secretary, and the representative of the committee for the integration of middle of the road parties.

The opposition parties include the Islamic Action Front, the Arab Baath Socialist Party, the Arab Baath Progressive Party, the National Action Front, the National Action Party (Hajj), the Arab Jordan Constitutional Front, the Democratic Popular Party (Hashd), the Communist Party, and the Democratic Popular Unity Party.

Accusing the US of backing Israel, they called on the UN Security Council to assume its responsibility and stop the "flagrant onslaught on Lebanon, and force Israel to withdraw." In their statement to UN Secretary-General, Mr Butrous Ghali,

the party leaders said "no peace or security can be achieved in the region if Israel continues to occupy Arab land and continues to impose collective punishment against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples."

Angry reactions to the Israeli destructive raids continued in Jordan from almost all individual political parties, social organizations, and professional associations.

The Jordanian Lawyers Association called for an urgent meeting of the permanent Secretariat of the Arab Lawyers Union to discuss the aggression against the Lebanese people. The Engineers Association donated JD 10,000 in assistance to the displaced people of south Lebanon. The Muslim Brotherhood said that the longer the Arab and Islamic nation is "disrupted, the more the Zionist enemy is encouraged to perpetrate further aggressions against it."

Jordanians condemn Israel's attack on Lebanon

Continued from page 1

need a just, comprehensive and durable peace. The ongoing Israeli operation in Lebanon undermines this," he told *The Star*. "It is an operation which aims at subjugation, and not at sitting at the table of negotiations on an equal footing." Mr Mdanat pointed out.

Eyad Qattan, a political observer, believes that the present attacks "are a very strong and clear message to Syria that the use of Hizbollah for attacks against Israel is not a good card to play in the negotiations between the two countries."

Although Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres said the objectives of what he termed as "Operation Grapes of Wrath" was to stop Hizbollah from attacking northern Israel, people in Jordan feel that the massive response just proves that Israel is way out of line. The operation suggests that Peres has other objectives: Dr Hamaneh feels that the Israeli prime minister is eyeing the Israeli elections on 28 May. "Peres wants to sell his image to the Israeli electorate as the tough, heavy-handed prime minister who can be trusted," Dr Kumbawi said. "Peres' basic problem is the absence of a military background. He has never been in the military establishment. So he would like to appear as the strongman who is capable of directing strike after strike," he added.

Qattan argues in terms of the over-all peace negotiations, "Peres, and I am not defending him, is under extreme pressure to show his society and his own party, that they have got a strong stance and what is termed as terrorist acts or tactics that are used by the other opponent are not going to be accepted as a trump card in the negotiations."

The attacks and bomb raids have reached as far as the southern district of Beirut, as well as Tripoli in the north. Yet, the regional reaction has been described at best as feeble. An Arab summit should be called to convene, Issa Mdanat argued. "All Arab states should have put severe pressure on the Israelis to stop this crazy bombardment of Lebanon," Dr Kumbawi said. "The position of Jordan was as weak and feeble as that of the other Arab states," all of them have exhibited very little will and ability to address the Israelis in a forceful manner, he said. But Dr Kumbawi went further by saying that the reactions of Arab regimes "aim towards appeasing the Arab people and not towards stopping the Israeli onslaught."

"The Jordanians must try to convince the Syrians not to try to appease or please a certain sector of society that maybe termed as the opposition by acts that would reflect negatively on the Syrians in the future."

At the same time, Peres should not feel and should not show himself to be under pressure by some extremists, and there are plenty of them in Israel, and should not try to appease them just for the sake of gaining points in the elections to come," he said. But Mr Qattan believes that despite Israel's attacks, Mr Peres in the end has to consider the international reaction. "He can't really stay there, can't continue to order air raids to make villagers leave. Eventually this is going to backfire against the credibility of the peace process between Israel and Syria."

However, there is more to the attacks than meets the eye. Dr Kumbawi maintains that Israel and the United States, which has given its blessing to the air raids, are still thinking of the old mentality of cold war politics and spheres of influence. He argued that the raids and shelling are a clear message to the French. "The latest visit of Jacques Chirac to Lebanon was an attempt to reintroduce the role of France in the region and particularly as the patron of Lebanon," he said. "This is something that the US and the Israelis are not keen on. The US message is very clear in the last few days that they are in full support of the Israeli military onslaught," he added.

"This is meant to be an embarrassment to French," Dr Kumbawi said. "This would prove to the Lebanese that the real power in the region is America and not France." "The French now are in a very tight position because there is very little that they can do," he added.

Diplomatic efforts intensify

Continued from page 1

added, "It was not our initiative, nor did we impose any conditions."

Christopher reached a similar arrangement in 1993, after an Israeli attack on Lebanon. The 1993 understandings were not written down, and they collapsed under growing differences between Israel and Hezbollah over the rules of their long hostility.

Much of the fighting between Israeli soldiers and Hezbollah guerrillas takes place in the portion of southern Lebanon occupied by Israel as a "security zone" against infiltration and bombardment from the north. But it often spills over into Hezbollah villages outside the zone and Israel's Galilee communities.

After earning notoriety in the 1980s for killing and kidnapping Westerners during Lebanon's civil war, Hezbollah has entered the mainstream of Lebanese politics. The group holds seats in parliament, operates a broad network of social

services and has officially disavowed earlier calls for Islamic revolution, except through democratic means.

Hezbollah officials say they still are willing to abide by the 1993 agreement, which they define as a mutual promise to avoid attacks on civilians. ■

11 deputies

Continued from page 1

blackmailing Syria and other countries with a view to forcing on them the type of settlement which satisfies Israel and the US.

A number of deputies criticized this week's Prime Minister Abdel Karim Kabariti's visit to Jerusalem where he met with Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres. Meanwhile, participants in the meeting issued a statement condemning Israel's aggression on Lebanon and calling on the international community to carry its responsibilities to stop the raids which threatened the peace process. ■

Balqa by-elections

Continued from page 1

Lafi, a voter at a polling station in Salt said. He said none of the statements brought anything new. "They focused on typical issues of unemployment and public services but avoided politics."

In Salt, loyalty to the tribe is very obvious. People's perspective on the election is mostly an echo of those of clan leaders.

"Voters must learn to support candidates who are well educated and cooperative," Salam Ghuncimat told *The Star*. She added that "we can't ignore the tribal mentality which determines people's choice in elections."

However, voters in the Baqaa refugee camp had other motives for voting. They wanted a deputy who would work to stop the worsening living conditions in the camp and improve the living standards of its people.

The Islamic Action Front (IAF) finds much support in the camp as it is well known for the charity it offers to needy families. But this time,

the IAF failed to get the "son of the camp" Ahmad Al Wahidi into the Lower House, as they had done with the late deputy Ibrahim Shihdeh. Al Wahidi only received 4613 votes.

Women candidates were totally absent from this election. Both in Salt and in Baqaa, women are still seen as incapable of assuming responsibilities usually assigned to men. "Women can play a greater role if they educate themselves and reject the stereotypes given to them by men," said Ghuncimat. "Women proved

that they can compete with men in the last municipality elections, and the municipality is the first step to Parliament."

Though these elections might appear to be insignificant in the wider scheme of things, the large number of candidates who ran proves otherwise.

One wonders how many candidates will run in the next general elections, especially after recent proposals to raise the number of seats in the Lower House from 80 to 100. ■

New Turkey-Israel military deal raises regional eyebrows

Continued from page 1

and the Arab states around it. "We say to both parties, the Israeli and the Turkish, that it is not in the interest of peace or stability that some non-Arab states in the region should come and enter an alliance, or a quasi-alliance," senior Egyptian policy-maker Osama Baz told reporters.

But the strongest reaction has come from Iran, keen to polish up its credentials as the most outspoken defender of "Islamic" ideals. Iranian newspapers heaped criticism on Turkey while Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati said Iran was closely following "news on Turkey's military cooperation with the Zionist regime." Iran's outburst of moral indignation was also timed to distract attention

from Turkey's demand last Tuesday that Tehran withdraw four Iranian diplomats, named as accomplices by an Islamic hit man who confessed to killing two prominent Turkish authors in 1990 and kidnapping Iranian opposition figures.

The Tehran government hit back with a pre-emptive demand that Turkey withdraw four Turkish diplomats from Iran for spying and other alleged misdeeds. Turkey quickly called them home, seeking to calm things down. This large NATO-member state may have by far the biggest economy in the region, but it remains caught between east and west and hobbled by its own internal political contradictions. ■

JORDAN TODAY
APRIL 1996

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Forgive our sordid lives in this age of helplessness; where
poetic justice is merely a dream, where innocence is a legiti-
military target and where humanity is a disease. We live
our tortured lives to see and see yet again the flesh of babies
being spent like empty shells. So do you forgive? ■

People & Politics

Eulogizing the living: Death of a Lebanese family

By Osama El-Sherif

To Muna, an infant, Zeina, 3, Laila, 4, Hassan 5 and their
parents, all of whom were killed when an Israeli rocket blew
to pieces the ambulance that was carrying them as they were
fleeing Israel's "Grapes of Wrath".

FORGIVE US! But then you may not. Why should you? Muna, Zeina, Laila and Hassan will never understand why life ended so suddenly for them on that terrible day. But death, like many of us, was humbled. Death had no cause to celebrate; plucking the lives of this Lebanese family. There was no triumph, only "collateral damage."

Forgive our transgressions; our weakness and our madness. For this is the age of madness; from humans to cows; this is the age when MADELINE Albright can sit and judge and pronounce sentences on every thing Arab; on little Zeina whose face was blown to pieces. Oh God, the pain that flows like a virgin river, the anger, so pristine, that burns like molten iron inside our guts; the despair, the bitterness, the echo of Muna's cries resonates like thunder forever, till Kingdom come and beyond.

Between the fruits of peace and the "grapes of wrath" little children lay gasping for life near a UN checkpoint. They were not the first, nor will they be the last. Israel! Oh Israel: your peace is killing us! Oh Israel whose tyranny is soaked in our blood. Your holocaust is becoming our nightmare; the irony of your history is deafening: your commandments: a mendacious epitaph!

Forgive our shenanigans! The silence with which we greet newspaper headlines every morning, the morbid looks on our faces as we watch the graphically detailed news bulletin every evening and the empty feeling we try to dispel every night as we go to bed. Forgive the peacemakers, the warmongers, those brandishing the sword dripping with blood, the brooms, the helmets, the turbans, the pens, the microphones, the little notebooks, the video cameras. Forgive our barren imaginations as we spit out carefully written words of condemnation or call for restraint or beg the Security Council to utter words of eternal wisdom and make a sense of the killings, the deportations, the demolitions, the mass evacuations, the nagging bombardments, the sanctions, the no fly zones, the no food zones, the no life zones! Is there a zone left for us to scurry to where we can raise our heads and smell the air of liberty and freedom?

Muna might have been hungry that noon day. She probably was sucking at her mother's breast when a hellish fireball burned the skin off her face; it is difficult to say. Does it matter? Zeina and Laila were frightened because the sound of explosions was so close, but Hassan, a young handsome boy was putting up a brave face, like his father. The ambulance siren was ululating like a bereaved mother. There on the ground lay fragments of a Lebanese family—a typical Arab family. The air smelled of burning flesh as Israeli aircraft reported a direct hit. Another Hizbollah target destroyed. Oh yes, the driver was a fanatic, the car was laden with explosives, Muna was to become a woman and then a mother who later gives birth to two boys who join the resistance. blow themselves up and kill tens of Israelis. It was a legitimate target, it could have been one, ten years from now, may be twenty or even thirty years from now, it will remain a target. It was a preemptive strike to kill the fighters who haven't been born yet.

Forgive our sordid lives in this age of helplessness; where poetic justice is merely a dream, where innocence is a legiti-
military target and where humanity is a disease. We live
our tortured lives to see and see yet again the flesh of babies
being spent like empty shells. So do you forgive? ■

EDITORS NOTE: Dr. Mohammad Maqusi is the Vice President of the University of Jordan's Academic Affairs, and Chairman of the National Coordination Committee for Admission of High School Students to Universities in Jordan. The Star's Awni Abu Ghosh spoke to Dr. Maqusi on the potential changes in education in Jordan. Excerpts follow:

What do changes in higher education mean to you?

When speaking about changes in higher education, a number of issues come to mind. The first is the need to rethink the total education ladder. The second concerns the major issues that we should put to discussion on higher education. The third deals with the new laws proposed on higher education (this involves the Ministry of Higher Education). The fourth touches upon the student admission which always constitutes a national concern. The fifth is what we are doing at the University of Jordan as a leading higher education institute.

Can you elaborate?

In terms of the first issue, we talk about higher education and the needed reforms. We really need to rethink the whole ladder from elementary education, through high school, community colleges, to the ranks of university education. I think any serious attempt to mitigate problems in higher education shouldn't contain itself to higher education only. It should be discussed at the high school education level as well, because the input to university education is the output of high school education. Hence, student quality and qualification are not limited just to the university environment.

In re-thinking this ladder, the high school education should be aimed at producing some graduates that we can wheel to the market directly. Perhaps after a short-term training.

A great bulk of the high school graduates should be channelled through this kind of training scheme. Another portion could find their ways to community colleges. Community college training is very important in supplying skilled labor. Unfortunately, a lot of the programs that are running in community colleges are not the right programs. I think we should encourage by policy, by support, and by regulations the community colleges to offer all technical education programs for local and regional benefit.

Do you mean education for human resources development?

Human resources development has always been a concern in Jordan, and continues to be, so that we can compete in the regional market. This means we've to re-think the status of community colleges and, of course, university programs.

When we come to university education, there are two criteria that we have to advocate, and they are linked to student admission to universities. One, we should admit quality, so that we can graduate quality. This means that we should admit students who are mentally capable to go to university, and who have the right qualifications to study the right specializations (e.g. medicine, engineering, other disciplines).

The other criterion is that for purposes of social equity we should admit students from deprived areas by certain limited quotas.

They should be encouraged by making them feel they are part of the society, and are able to go up the ladder for a better life.

Currently we're enrolling more students than the capabilities of universities. Should we want to enroll more, we should then support the resources of universities to handle such large numbers. These resources include

human resources, as well as lab resources, and other facility-type resources. The university incidentally is not just a place for providing knowledge and skills to students, it is much more than that.

Where does this take us to?

In my opinion, it takes us to the philosophy of university education which has two main pillars. The first is that university education should provide students with the necessary knowledge and skills. The skills are probably more prevalent in professional areas than in the arts types of education. The other, is that we should teach students in a way that they can be self-learners when they graduate. This means we should enhance their intuition, emphasize the enlightenment approaches in our teaching, and underline topics which



Maqusi

Where do we in Jordan stand from all of this?

I believe that we in Jordan stand at a crossroads in higher education. There is a valid call for restructuring higher education. But we haven't yet gone into serious discussions.

Before we restructure higher education, there are a number of issues that should be settled.

We in Jordan stand with higher education at a crossroads. There is a valid call for restructuring higher education. But we haven't yet gone into serious discussions.

We should have clear in our minds at least the terms of reference of what we are talking about, so that we can say: yes, that's what we need to do here and there, etc.

But there are indications of cancelling the Ministry of Higher Education...

If the goal is just to cancel the MHE, I think that is wrong. But if this goal emancipates from the notion that it may be a detriment to the advancement, development, and progress of higher education, then that is another issue. The establishment of proper terms of reference is very important, and takes us back to the total, comprehensive and integrated approach to high school, com-

munity college and higher education at the university level.

In restructuring higher education, one looks at the laws, by-laws, and regulations, that govern it. Here comes what we want to do with the MHE. There have been proposed laws which call for some modifications in the MHE, the Council of Higher Education (CHE), and universities. These three entities are separate and different. Our public universities enjoy some form of autonomy which is largely responsible for their progress and development. They should however be accountable to some other entities. But I think that autonomy has been a blessed characteristic of public university operation, and we should safeguard that.

There is also talk that public universities should have separate board of trustees. There is no harm in that. These boards should preoccupy themselves with two main tasks. One is fund raising, and the other is general policy making. They should not preoccupy themselves with running day-to-day issues, otherwise this will ultimately create a clash between the university administration and the boards.

Then there is the talk about the remaking of the CHE. In a small country like Jordan, the Government—through taxation

or whatever mechanism—should continue to support public university education. In this sense, there is the financial issue. And because we are a small country, planning for

expensive studies, like medicine or dentistry should be done also on top level. There should be much more coordination between universities. For this reason, and because of the public funding that comes to universities, there is the need to talk about broad, general but important policies governing discipline learning and the discipline offering in universities and issues like student admission and numbers. These three areas constitute enough leverage to say that we need a council of higher education. It should be chaired by the Prime Minister, and the presidents of public universities should be members on that council.

So with the formation of CHE, I think there should be an office which overtakes some

of the responsibilities in case we come to the liquidation of the MHE.

What are the steps of re-thinking educational policies?

The government should produce guidelines that serve as terms of reference for any work on reforms in higher education. We need here to look at or examine the laws, by-laws governing the works of higher education. But the impetus should be that we want to arrive at a more efficient and more effective means or structures of running, regulating and monitoring higher education in Jordan for the purposes in the end of producing quality. Because this lies in with the economies of higher education. We also need to re-think the number of students we are enrolling in universities each year, as well as the policies of admission. This again means we need a more comprehensive and integrated look at education from high school to community college to universities. I also think we need to re-examine the economics of higher education, but we have to define what we mean by it. This is certainly tied to funding, whether it comes from the student or from government. It is also tied to the marketing of the graduate and I think we need to re-examine the contents of our programs. We have been doing this at the UJ for two years. We need to re-examine what we want to do with graduate studies, and with the research activities at universities: are we giving enough support for the development of these two aspects of activities at the universities? I don't think we are!

When it comes to the restructuring of the universities from an academic point of view, the basis of investigations is the program. At the UJ, we have been looking at programs in different faculties and departments. Then the questions are: has this program outlived its purpose? and if it has, it should be killed. Does this program warrant for standing alone by itself or should it be merged with another program? Then, what are the other programs that we should introduce? The university should settle on the programs that it should cancel, the types of programs it wants to merge, the types of programs it should introduce, not because of the needs of the labor market (that is only one drive), but also for the need of the public for education.

When we think of the UJ having 56% female students and 44% male students, then the question arises in accordance with our societal values or other measures: are we offering the right programs to educate our girls? Are we offering enough education programs which these girls need? This question deserves an answer.

But this is interlinked with the labor market...

When it comes to issues of the labor market, we know that we are now living in an information age. Are we then offering the programs and the contents within the other programs that can meet the challenges of the information age? Whether we like it or not, even the developing countries will be slowly becoming information societies. Universities cannot standstill and ignore that. They have to re-examine their programs, and introduce courses and total programs to meet the challenges of an information society.

Then we need to strike a compromise between education for quality and education for quantity. We have instilled in the Jordanian public, as much as in the Palestinian public—on both sides of the river—the value of education, and it hasn't been in vain. Our resources on both sides of the river are very limited, so people have found out by experience that university education indeed serves their quest to a better life.

Now, to start to convince people otherwise, it takes a generation, and you have also to create other viable and reasonable employment options to say to people that community college education is also important and can substitute for university education. And you have to provide them with the right programs. In the end, I think we need to venture into daring and innovative moves towards higher educational reforms and restructuring, especially that we are soon to enter the twenty-first century.

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China's Prime Minister LI PENG



Our Say...

Fruits of peace or 'grapes of wrath'

ISRAEL'S WEEK-old spring military campaign against Lebanon may not warrant a Sharm El Sheikh-like summit. But for the people of Lebanon, it is certain that the Arab and international communities are not even forthcoming in paying worthless lip-service. For those who are embarrassed by the latest spate of violence as it would shake or break the beleaguered Middle East peace process, we can assure them that Israel's logic will prevail and the new Middle East of Mr Shimon Peres will maintain its old characteristics.

The people of Lebanon are being punished for allowing Hizbullah to function on Lebanese soil. The United States drives the point home every time its officials are asked to comment on the situation in Lebanon. Arab leaders and officials make stories about the plight of the Lebanese people and the threat this latest bombardment poses to the peace camp. However, no one talks about Israel's occupation of Lebanese territory and its violation of UN Security Council resolution 425. Neither does any one talk about Israel's sanctions and malicious war against the Lebanese state, government and people. Moreover, Israel's intimidation of hundreds of thousands of people in south Lebanon and its flagrant campaign of terror which gravely endangers the very basis of peace in the region are also hood-eyed.

Some people are apparently deceived by Israel's security claims as major justifications for such abominable continued raids. Still much worse is that these people never thought of the equal security needed for the victimized Lebanese people.

We would not be repeating ourselves by saying that this cycle of violence will neither guarantee Israel's security nor will it end attacks against Israeli civilians. In fact, one could safely say that in the absence of a political settlement between Lebanon and Israel over the latter's occupation of the south, Israelis will have to deal with all forms of legitimate resistance.

The challenge to the peace process in the Middle East is much bigger than what the few believe as emanating from the latest assault in Lebanon. The fatal challenge to stability in the region stems from the lack of concluding a just, durable and comprehensive peace on all tracks. And as long as Israel continues to occupy the Golan heights, southern Lebanon, and militarily control the towns and the villages of the self-rule areas, natural resentment of the subjugated people will continue to assume different forms. If Hizbullah attacks on Israeli citizens are recognized as terrorist acts, the Israeli land, sea and air bombardment are likewise recognized as devastatingly so.

Who is the victor then? Simply no one! The present alignment to Israel by many a super power against an innocent, peaceful Lebanese people will never build peace in the region. It may maintain Israel stronger in war terms, but it will not bring about security to northern Israel. In the same line, Arab indifference, which is meant to appease US and pacify Israel, will have no revenue as the Israeli partner speaks another language and resorts to different weapons.

● Laila Khaled, the Palestinian woman who became famous in the late 1960's when she hijacked an American airliner, was barred from entering the West Bank this week by the Israeli authorities. She was turned back when she attempted to cross from Jordan into the Occupied Territories. One day later Israel announced that it was allowing Khaled to enter in order to participate in the meetings of the Palestine National Council (PNC). Israel also announced that it will allow the DFLP's Nayef Hawatmeh to enter the territories for the same purpose. The PNC will meet on 22 April.



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Lebanon

The peace of warriors

Israel is again acting like it was in the age of isolationism and the parochial mentality, when the sword and the gun were the language of the brave.

By Marwan Asmar

THEY CALL it the age of peace. But which peace are we talking about, at what expense, and who is it for? Israel, managing to enter the Arab world as a welcome guest, is today flexing its military might.

Under the guise of peace and togetherness, it continues to ride roughshod over the region with little care. First, it was the Palestinians. Starving them through an overall economic blockade, a boycott that is designed to bring them to their knees and to make them beg forgiveness from the high and mighty! "Peace, yes, but peace according to my terms, yes I am the country, and you are the subjects."

Israel is again acting like it was in the age of isolationism and the parochial mentality, when the sword and the gun were the language of the brave. Peace, coexistence and brotherhood have come to exist but only in figments of one's imagination, and as a tool for the gratification of one side and one party.

Israel is no longer the ogre and the adversary of war but the country to be cherished, the bosom buddy. Across the region, as far east as Oman and Qatar, our young friend has come to be admired for standing up for peace and justice.

"Yet where is that when it comes to the Palestinians and the Lebanese" someone whispers. "No, Not those, not the wretched of the earth, but the strong, the mighty, the muscle," another hisses back.

The latest roar in south Lebanon, was not the roar of a bear, but of guns, fire and

mortars. Planes, and more planes just continued bombarding villages leading to the evacuation of hundreds of thousands of people. It is the age of hypocrisy when humiliation is once again taking over liberal mindedness if ever such a thing existed.

It is like reliving the air raids of 1978 and 1982, of Tal Al Zatar, Sabra, and Shatila, of Dalal Al Mughrabi. Nothing has changed. "But it's the peace era," someone shouts. "Who cares, this is the age of the strong and the mighty," Israel has long regarded Lebanon as its own backyard and come what may it will continue to go into the country. "But what about justice, sovereignty, international decency," "Yes what about them," a far cry can be heard.

Israel just will not learn. Labor, Likud, religious right, it's all the same. Its adventures into Lebanon have caused nothing but fear and animosity among a people who have longed to rid themselves of an ongoing disease.

Israel has created a breeding ground for radicalism and hatred. It has defeated its whole objective. How can it become a respectable member of the region, if its only weapon is the



Israeli military displayed before it enters battle

gun and the sword? The international pariah of the 1970's and 1980's has just not learned. It has maintained its spots. A huge military machine that lives on nerves and twitching fingers, the first to use the barrel of a gun to create the first fire, mayhem, destruction.

What about the peace process, comprehensive peace, Syria, Lebanon and the rest. These will have to wait until the bear has quenched its thirst. "But when, another war in the region is in the offing," "When the bear decides," comes the reply. "But that could be never!"

Israel's mighty fist has not softened but continues to bat

away at anybody and everybody. The poor, the helpless and the infirm are the inevitable targets of the whims of a leadership that thrives on death and destruction and whose only answer is beatings, beatings and more beatings!

And for what, for what? Haven't anybody learned. Why Lebanon, why the agency, why the waste, the terrible destruction? Israel has not learnt, a single thing since its invasion of Lebanon. It has not learnt that just as it wants to live in peace and security, others want to do the same. But not at any price, not at the price of subjugation and domination.

Former British diplomat

Arab states, crisis and political freedom

By Mark Huband

ARAB STATES will be crippled by instability and a worsening crisis of identity unless entrenched rulers increase political freedom, according to a senior British diplomat.

Sir Allan Ramsay, Britain's Ambassador to Morocco until his retirement last week, said that military-backed rulers throughout the Arab world must choose between an end to their autocratic rule or face an increasingly bitter battle with Islamic fundamentalists.

Sir Allan, who has spent 40 years as a soldier and diplomat in the Arab world, criticized Arab states for their failure to conduct debate on religious issues, which he sees as threatening the foundations of the Islamic world.

Sir Allan, portraying Islamic fundamentalism as a successor in the failed experiments with Arab nationalism and socialism, predicted extreme instability if the Muslim message failed to provide the Arab world with the sense of identity the fundamentalists claim to have found.

"There's a very definite character to Islamism that makes me wonder what will happen if it goes the way of nationalism and socialism. Because Islamism attempts to go to the roots of things, I think it is actually fraught with dangers for the Arabs and for the Islamic religion, because if it does not succeed in its aims then what happens? It doesn't seem to me that there's anything else left, unless there's a reversion to secularism. Islamism is in a sense the last throw of the dice," he said.

Sir Allan said that the governments of the Arab world had failed to steer reform in a way that allowed debate on the separation of religion and politics. He regards such a debate as vital to the stability of the region and the creation of institutions that are capable of bringing development.

"Either you have a reversion to a very ugly form of primitive, very assertive dogmatic Islamism, or you have to go down the path of more participatory politics. Those are the alterna-

tives. I don't think Islam will ever recede," he said. Sir Allan described the Islamic world as largely sapped by the same inertia it experienced when Europe blossomed during the Renaissance.

"Nobody can say to investors with absolute confidence that any country in the Middle East is stable. And they are not stable because too much of the best of all that is available is concentrated in too few hands."

"As an alternative it's not enough to say that the answer is in religion or a return to a simpler structure," he said.

Sir Allan said the gulf between the Islamic and non-Islamic world could not be bridged unless Western countries rediscovered their own spirituality and recognized the importance of religion to Muslims when re-examining the framework for dialogue.

"We in the West have to recover something that we have lost if we're to make sense of understanding the Muslim world. Equally, they have to accept that you can't approach a dialogue or any meaningful relationship on the assumption that yours is the conclusive and only system."

The maintenance of non-democratic systems and the absence of meaningful debate were the main hindrances to genuine acceptance of Israel by the Arab world, said Sir Allan, who was posted to the British Embassy in Cairo during the 1970s before stints in Afghanistan and Iraq.

"If peace, and the existence of Israel is going to become ac-



External investments will require more stability in the region, says former British diplomat

cepted, without involving major inputs of Western diplomacy and military assistance, then this has to be accepted by the Arab people at large. And that can only come through their more active involvement in the politics of their own countries, and that can only come through a form of representative democracy," he said.

The Times

Middle East Beat

by Khairi Janbe

The stalking horse

GUNSHIPS SENT awe-some fire power on the residents of the southern suburbs. Hopes of economic prosperity, with tourists filling the beaches and streets of the city, and death looming round the corner, dictated its own terms.

The dream of one Lebanon is so near in our hearts, yet so far in Arab reality. How will Lebanon emerge after the Syrian-Israeli peace formula is balanced out in an eventual settlement? The coming elections in Israel will make Mr Peres look and act tough, because if he does not support the sentiments of his generals, it is more than likely that Mr Netanyahu will be more than happy to do the job.

However, Lebanon does not fall between the election ambitions of Israeli politicians alone, for Syria is still the other important part of the Lebanese predicament. The only difference is that President Assad does not have to do anything save being there. Syria will not involve itself in a war with Israel over Lebanon, providing that its own sphere of influence in the country remain unchallenged, and its bargaining chips in the negotiations with Israel remain intact.

Meanwhile, the Lebanese government will continue to seek credibility among its war weary citizens knowing too well that such credibility is very hard to achieve with Israel sitting on one part of the country. Hizbullah running the affairs of the other part, and Syria calling the shots. It is ironic to hear the Israeli Foreign Minister Mr Barak comforting the Syrian and Lebanese governments that if their troops do not respond to attacks against designated targets, the war will continue to be against Hizbullah alone.

One now thinks that there is another government called Hizbullah. Perhaps it is important for Syria to have such an ally in Lebanon, to better its negotiating position with Israel. But such a strong ally is not required for the Lebanese government, as eventually, when a settlement is reached between Israel and Syria, the southern areas of Lebanon will not be under Syrian influence. Israel will demand a security arrangement from the Lebanese government before it withdraws its own troops.

It is highly unlikely, that the Israeli-designated South Lebanese Army (SLA) will play any future role in any proposed arrangement for the South. Sooner or later, the Lebanese Army will be pitted against Hizbullah which will be dumped by Syria, thus setting a scenario of conflict that Lebanon may never be saved from. That is of course, if Israel does not insist that the SLA continue to patrol the present occupied area, as a proxy, which in effect adds another dimension to the conflict scenario.

It is evident that there is no alternative to peace in the region, to save at least the Lebanese from their nightmare of being the stalking horse of their mightier neighbors. No Lebanese government will have any credibility in the eyes of its people so long as their interests are not put before all concerns.

So long as decisions continue to be made in Damascus, and Israel continues to bomb, the Lebanese government will only represent itself and the interests of a few individuals, and will never reflect the spirit of its people.

If peace ever happens, then it should reflect the independence of the Lebanese political will, otherwise what could not be achieved in terms of the dissolution of the country, in times of war, will be achieved under an unjust peace.

Business scene

Business scene
The Jordanian government has announced that it will allow the DFLP's Nayef Hawatmeh to enter the territories for the same purpose. The PNC will meet on 22 April.

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Libya, Iran spending millions on germ, chemical weapons, Pentagon says

At a press conference, Secretary of Defense William J. Perry depicted the report as comparable to Pentagon reports published by the Reagan administration that sowed public alarm about the threat of a Soviet military attack.

By R. Jeffrey Smith
LA Times-Washington Post News Service

WASHINGTON—Libya is spending several hundred million dollars a year to develop chemical and germ weapons, as well as the missiles to deliver them, Iran is producing a growing volume of poison gas while also trying to develop germ and nuclear weapons, Russia and China may each be holding onto illicit biological weapon factories.

These are among the allegations in a glossy 63-page report released last Thursday by the US Defense Department, which for the first time declares the global spread of nuclear, chemical and biological arms as well as ballistic missiles to be the preeminent threat to American security in the post-Cold War world.

At a press conference, Secretary of Defense William J. Perry depicted the report as comparable to Pentagon reports published by the Reagan administration that sowed public alarm about the threat of a Soviet military attack. "The proliferation of these horrific weapons poses a grave and urgent risk to the United States and our citizens, allies, and troops abroad," he said.

Although the report contains little information that has not already been disclosed in news accounts based on leaked intelligence data, it reiterates US concerns about past Chinese sales of "materials, equipment and technologies that could contribute to (nuclear, chemical, and biological) weapons and missile programs in countries of proliferation concern."

It also depicts Iran, North Korea, Iraq and Libya as posing a particular proliferation threat. Iran is alleged not only to be accelerating its development of germ weapons but also to have supplied Libya with poison gas that was dropped onto military troops from neighboring Chad in 1987. The Pentagon said Libya got the gas from Iran in exchange for some naval mines.

The report further alleges that the Chosen Soren, a Korean group based in Japan, has helped North Korea acquire technology and materials for ballistic missiles and nuclear, biological, or chemical weaponry. An official who asked not to be identified said that a network of front companies owned by the group has exported specialty steel, for example, that North Korea used to build missile bodies.

The report did not mention some politically sensitive proliferation issues, even though they were previously disclosed. It does not refer to chemical or germ weapons stockpiles that US intelligence officials have said are held by Israel, Taiwan and Syria, nor does it mention the role that Thai workers and German firms have played over the past three years in the construction of a new Libyan chemical weapons factory at Tarhuna.

But several officials said that publicly advertising the danger of weapons proliferation—even in highly general terms—has political as well as military significance for the Clinton administration. As one official explained, it helps justify paying "a quarter of a trillion (dollars a year) for the nation's defense, while also supporting the Pentagon's contention that it has reoriented its focus to respond to more pressing military threats than a Russian attack.

A substantial section of the report is devoted to describing new "counter-proliferation" programs at the Defense Department, which have helped produce a lightweight suit that can protect troops against poison gases or germs. A new system for defending



Libya's Strongman, Col. MUHAMMAD EL-QADDAFI

UN, Iraqi negotiators move closer to an Oil-for-Food Accord

By John M. Goshko
LA Times-The Washington Post News Service

UNITED NATIONS—UN and Iraqi negotiators have tentatively agreed on a formula for overcoming the principal obstacle blocking an accord on an oil-for-food deal to ease the impact of international sanctions on Iraq's hard-pressed people, UN officials sources said Friday.

The sources, who declined to be identified, said a firm agreement could be achieved soon to deal with the controversial question of how food and other humanitarian supplies would be delivered to the Kurds in northern Iraq. Although there is a positive response, Iraq's chief negotiator, Ambassador Abul Amir Al Anbari stressed at the end of the talks on April 10 that "there is no agreement until we agree on everything."

The talks are on how to implement Security Council resolution 986 which would allow Iraq to sell up to \$1,000 million of oil every 90 days under UN supervision in order to buy humanitarian supplies for Iraqi civilians while the Gulf War sanctions remain in place.

Following Iraq's defeat in the 1991 Persian Gulf War, President Saddam Hussein unleashed an all-out military campaign to prevent the Kurdish region from seceding, and the area since has been cut off from the rest of the country under UN protection.

Even if the evolving formula for Kurdish relief becomes firm, the sources cautioned, considerable negotiating still would be required to work out all necessary technical details for an agreement permitting a partial lifting of the UN embargo imposed on Iraq in 1990. If such an agreement is achieved, it would have to be approved by Saddam's government and by the 15-nation Security Council.

After six years of sanctions, Iraq increasingly is suffering severe shortages of food, medicine and other necessities. To alleviate the suffering of the masses, the Security Council has offered to permit Iraq to sell \$2 billion worth of its oil—about 700,000 barrels a day—over six months, provided the funds are monitored closely by the United Nations to ensure that they are used solely for humanitarian purposes.

The council has stipulated that \$130 million to \$150 million out of each \$1 billion in sales must go to relief of the Kurds in the north. At present, international relief supplies for the Kurds are shipped through neighboring Turkey.

Baghdad contends that continuing that system under an oil-for-food accord would infringe Iraqi sovereignty. Accordingly, it entered the negotiations insisting that future humanitarian aid to the Kurds should be controlled by Baghdad and shipped through Iraqi territory. However, the United States has signaled that it probably would veto any agreement that does not provide for UN control over aid to the Kurds.

The compromise, as described by the sources, would provide for food and other supplies purchased with receipts from oil sales to be brought into Iraq through its southern ports. When the supplies enter, the Iraqi government would be given a certificate stating it is the legal owner.

But the Iraqis would not get physical control of the supplies, whose transportation and distribution to the Kurds would be handled by the World Food Program, a Rome-based UN agency. The idea, the sources said, is to give the Iraqis a face-saving issue, while ensuring that actual distribution remains under UN control.

However, a US official said that there has been no request from Iraq for a US visa for any high-ranking Iraqi official such as Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz to visit New York. Such a request could signal that the two sides are close to an agreement.

War crimes experts endure dig of death

By Daniel Williams
LA Times-Washington Post News Service

TUZLA, Bosnia-Herzegovina—To the casual observer, the scene looks something like an archaeological dig, except for the sniffer. A team of investigators with small shovels and plastic bags gather bones, clothing and other debris from a roped-off field. They painstakingly tag the items and place them in plastic bags.

But these are not the artifacts of an ancient civilization. They are the remains, investigators contend, of Bosnian Muslims killed by Serb soldiers after the Muslims fled the small town of Srebrenica, in eastern Bosnia, when it fell to the Serbs last July, five months before the end of the war.

One investigator pierces muddy ground with a stick five feet long, pulls it up and sniffs the end. He is trying to detect the aroma of rotten corpses, a sign of death below the surface. This is the archaeology of war crimes.

Bosnian Muslim witnesses say the Serbs, in a series of massacres, executed defenseless Muslims by the hundreds and buried them in mass graves at perhaps 30 sites north of Srebrenica. For more than a week, investigators have been gathering evidence that could validate that testimony. War crimes cases are being pursued by the War Crimes Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, headquartered at The Hague, and operating under the authority of the United Nations.

The Hague court has indicted 57 suspects, 46 Serbs, eight Croats and three Muslims, for a variety of alleged crimes in a war in which civilians were the prime targets. While the findings at the sites near Srebrenica may be used to prosecute those who organized the massacres, they may also buttress cases against the Bosnian Serbs' military commander, Ratko Mladic, and their political leader, Radovan Karadzic, each of whom has been indicted.

Evidence has been gathered near Srebrenica under difficult circumstances. The war crimes trials that followed World War II brought many Nazi leaders to justice. But unlike that war, the war in Bosnia ended without the total defeat of any of the perpetrators.

One potentially powerful enforcer, the NATO-led peacekeeping force, refuses to get involved. The Americans in particular are unwilling to pursue any suspects. US commanders in Bosnia say they fear losing an aura of neutrality needed to keep the warring sides apart.

In the Srebrenica area, the US Army provides shelter for the investigators at Camp Lisa, near Vlasenica. The army also provides security when the team is at work at the suspected mass grave sites. The US troops, however, do not safeguard the sites at night, and there are indications that some of the graves have been tampered with and that evidence may have been removed.

The investigation near Srebrenica goes on nonetheless. At one site, the probes set aside what appeared to be blind folds, evidence that would correspond with survivors' testimony that victims were masked before execution. Clothing and a rib cage were placed in bags. One investigator spoke quietly into a tape recorder. Another took photographs.

The photographs will serve as evidence and will also help ensure that future tampering does not hamper prosecutions. The Boston-based Physicians for Human Rights supplied forensic expertise for the investigation. The group was formed in 1986 to aid in probing cases in the Argentine "dirty war" against government opponents. Since then it has worked in Guatemala, El Salvador and Rwanda. "It is like a regular crime investigation, except it is meant to be used to fix responsibility up the chain of command," said Susanna Sirken, the group's acting executive director.

Like archaeologists, the investigators first map out the grave site. They scour above and below the surface for evidence: bullets, bullet scars on trees, skeletons. Bullet shells can be matched with weaponry known to be used by suspected perpetrators. Bones can indicate the size, age and gender of the deceased and the manner in which they were killed. Later, fuller excavations will take place to recover more evidence and perhaps bodies.

Anthropologists will piece together remains to determine how many people were buried and to prepare the way for pathologists to perform autopsies. They will also study the kinds of injuries inflicted. "In Rwanda, for example, we found a lot of machete killings," said Sirken.

Only later will efforts be made to identify the victims. In Rwanda, relatives were asked to view objects found on the site: clothing, rings, wallets, anything that might indicate who was slaughtered. DNA matching can also be used, but that is a long, painstaking, costly process, Sirken said.

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Collective cemeteries of Bosnian Muslims have only recently been uncovered

Angry Saudis set to switch arms orders to France

By Wayne Bodkin

France has launched an intensive campaign to win huge arms contracts from Saudi Arabia, seizing the initiative as Britain's relations with the Saudi royal family become increasingly strained.

Jacques Chirac, the French president, is planning a visit to Saudi Arabia in the next few months amid British fears that lucrative arms deals will be lost because of Saudi anger about the presence in London of a prominent dissident.

The French were jubilant at the news of the warning from Dr. Ghazi Al Gossabi, the Saudi ambassador to Britain, that the continued presence of Mohammed al Masari in London would harm commercial relations between the two countries.

French diplomatic sources are confident they will now beat off British competition to secure various multi-billion pound arms sales in Saudi Arabia.

"It is unfortunate that Britain has yet another problem on top of mad cow disease," said one French foreign office official. "This is about trade, and business is business. We are all chasing the post-Gulf war dividend and the stakes are high. France is competitive and we are keen to sell our material."

Charles Millon, the French foreign minister, returned from a private two-day visit to Riyadh, where he had lengthy talks with the heir to the throne, Prince Abdullah.

The two discussed a proposed multi-million pound tank contract and other defence related matters.

Announcements are due to be made regarding a series of joint projects between France and Saudi Arabia as both countries now seem keen to forge closer links.

The British government, meanwhile, was stepping up efforts to find a country willing to take Al Masari, who has been outspoken about the royal family in Saudi Arabia.

Plans to deport Al Masari to the Caribbean island of Dominica collapsed after the High Court ruled it was not a safe haven.

The dramatic improvement in French-Saudi relations will soon be highlighted by Chirac, who is expected to visit Saudi Arabia. The trip could be timed to coincide with an announcement of new defence contracts between the two countries.

French foreign ministry sources say final details of the trip are being discussed.

The flurry of diplomatic and commercial activity also includes planned high-level talks between Saudi and French military chiefs due to start shortly in Paris. There are further plans to set up closer military ties, which would signal significant arms purchases from the French.

Saudi military chiefs are about to order 150 tanks worth up to \$3 billion. Officially, they are looking at the British Challenger, the American Abrams M1A2 and the French Leclerc, now considered the favorite.

The Saudis bought 450 Abrams tanks three years ago and may well be tempted to try others to try other makes to help build up partnerships. The Saudi army has said it wishes to carry out supplementary tests on the Leclerc tank before confirming any order.

Striving for a free press 'worth the fight' Governments favor press controls

By Charles W. Corey
USIA Staff Writer

WASHINGTON—Striving for a free press is "worth the fight" for any nation, says a well-known American media critic.

Appearing on a US Information Agency WorldNet "Dialogue" program, American University communications Professor Lewis Wolfson said that in the fight for a free press, it is important for editors, reporters, and a concerned public to clearly and defensively establish a position.

"Don't let government make a move on the press," Wolfson said, "because they" will if given the chance. "They do it everywhere," he warned participants in Austria, Lithuania and Estonia. "You have to be careful to fight every inch of the way."

Some "of you have countries where you still have a central oligarchic government, and it is hard to break free" of that, he said, while adding that "sometimes it feels like a very lonely fight."

A good and responsible free press is a benefit to citizens worldwide, he stressed, because it keeps governments honest and public well informed about the activities of their elected officials.

Asked how important it is for a newspaper to remain neutral in an election campaign, Wolfson replied, "It is not only important, it is essential."

In the United States, he explained, particular candidates will be endorsed on editorial pages. Still it is critical, he said, that news columns remain objective. And while "pure objectivity is impossible to reach" it should be striven for "because objectivity and balance are essential to good journalism."

Speaking to journalists in the audience, Wolfson cautioned that "Once people start reading your stories in the newspaper and say, 'Oh boy, I see a slant toward this party or toward this candidate in the news columns,' then it changes their view of your newspaper. As you know, credibility is a journalist's most precious characteristic."

Asked about the influence of electronic media in the United States—in elections for instance—Wolfson admitted that "More people get their news from television in this country—perhaps 60 percent or even more. But" he quickly pointed out, "there is something more" happening than is readily apparent to radio and television audiences.

"There is a process here," he said, "When... the anchors for the three major networks arrive at work every day, the first thing they do is read The Washington Post, The New York Times and The Wall Street Journal and perhaps other newspapers and news magazines. Most of the original reporting done in this country is done by newspapers. So it has really an enormous—if secondary—influence—on what goes on in the political process, in political reporting."

Asked about coverage of a candidate's personal life during an election campaign, Wolfson maintained that "We do need to know about the private lives of politicians, especially where it affects their public performance—and that is the standard that is always used." But he noted that such knowledge is "subject to all kinds of interpretation" and "there have been excesses in the process."

Asked in view of the long campaign process, if US journalists focus unduly on the private lives of presidential contenders, Wolfson said "When they are not busy, they are looking often for other things. Sometimes, they will rush to some story that is fleeting, that is not quite told completely, and then move on. Meanwhile, the story" may create a lasting impression with the public.


Commenting about imposing guidelines on the press, Wolfson said, "I am one who has been around Washington for a long time, both as a journalist and as a teacher, and I get very nervous when people start talking about limitations on the press and start talking about national security limiting the press."

"How often have we heard that argument?" he asked rhetorically. "We heard it during the Vietnam War and during Watergate. We have heard it since, and quite often it has not proven out."


"I think the press rightfully goes after secrets in government that they think should be made public, but has also been discreet about holding back about things they feel should not be made public," Wolfson said.

Asked if any guidelines are needed for public radio or television during campaigns, Wolfson emphatically said "No!"

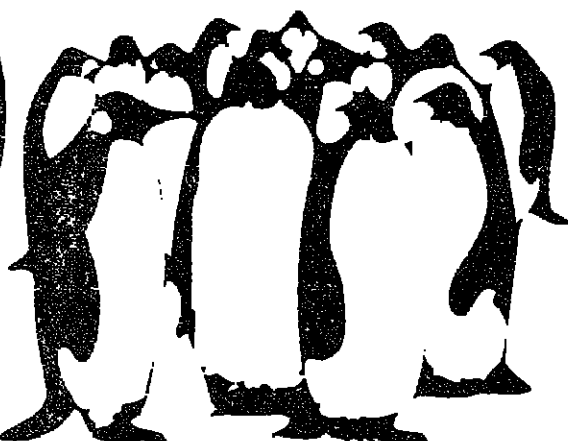
"Both are free to analyze as they might. They are also free to criticize a sitting president... There is that feeling—although politicians are not very happy about it—that public broadcasting is the peoples' broadcasting and is open to say what it might."



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AROUND
TOWNPrincess Basma,
appointed as Goodwill
Ambassador

HRH Princess Basma was officially appointed as an Ambassador of Goodwill to the United Nations Development Fund for Women. The princess said she was deeply honored by the appointment. "I will always look at my responsibility genuinely and I promise this will be regarded by me as a commitment to genuinely serve women in this region and worldwide," she told a special ceremony organized by UNIFEM in Amman.



The Right to Hope

Art for the spiritual and common man

By Harry Pollens
Special to The Star

An International travelling exhibition entitled "The Right to Hope" which started in South Africa in 1995 is currently on display at the National Art Gallery, as part of its worldwide tour program. This unparalleled mega-exhibit has successfully brought together renowned artists with varied perceptions and artistic experiences from 42 countries; they are mostly from the Third World.

The exhibition is the most conceptual, complete and universally appealing the Kingdom has yet seen.

The art works have raised much praise from

the artistic community. The artists have forged together to bring about a better world. The works are not only intriguing and laudable, but they are soothing, and assuring in a constantly degenerating world.

Some of the most distinctive features of the exhibit are the centrality of the collective experience and the spiritual strength which is the driving force. The artists' solidarity and sympathy for man, as depicted in their works, offered a celebration of hope. Each one of these artists is an accomplished one with a pervasive value that went beyond his or her own society, community or even nation. Besides their originality, one might as well call them integrationists who in their capacity have also transcended their ethnic and religious affiliations for universal causes.

Works on display consist of paintings, carvings, sculpture and installations which represent the difference in the context and origin of art forms worldwide. In spite of their exuberance, its aesthetic satisfaction complements the profound expression.

The works' motifs reflect their different cultural, historical and geographical backgrounds. The passion created by some are poignant, yet their message are grasping.

The president of the Royal Society of Fine Arts, Princess Wijdan commented that, "this is

not an exhibition of art for art's sake; it is an exhibition where every work comes with a conviction which the artist tries to convey through what he or she deems most appropriate."

"We live in a world with too many conflicts and much injustice, therefore not everyone can remain indifferent and uninvolved," she added.

The Right to Hope is an international cultural and educational project which is part of the United Nations' 50th anniversary commemoration. The project is divided into three parts which include a Global television series, this travelling exhibition and related publications that show art as means of communication and education.

In the artists' search for a solution, and in their expression of hope for a better world, there are references to wars, injustice, colonialism, racism, inequality, occupation, displacement and refugees, hunger and starvation and environmental degradation.

The artists well understood the negative effects of these factors, the dilemma, resentment and latent frustrations which they have posed in the human world.

In the context of rapidly changing international trends and shifting opinions, the campaign for social reorientation and restoration of human unalienable rights has broadened. But today, many people still live under severe restraint, threat of violence and are denied their basic rights that others take for granted.

In this moralistic appealing exhibit, these artists are seeking ways to harness and use art as a medium to encourage governments, societies, organizations to seek equality, justice, to promote global peace and encourage solidarity and



brotherhood as human hopes and destiny seem inextricably tied together.

South Africa was especially chosen to host the opening of the exhibit, as it is one of the countries that best represents the hopes and difficulties addressed by the project.

THE FAR SIDE

By GARY LARSON



Tomorrow, they would be mortal enemies. But on the eve of the great hunt, feelings were put aside for the traditional Mammoth Dance.



Inside tours of Acme Fake Vomit Inc.



"Gee ... look at all the little black dots."



"Bad guy comin' in, Arnie! ... Minor key!"



AGENDA

Exhibitions at 5:30 pm.

An exhibition entitled "Homage to Yafa" by Palestinian artist Nasser Soumi at Darat al Funun, continuing till 9 May.

An exhibition entitled "The Right to Hope, One World Art" at the Jordan National Gallery of Fine Art, continuing till 1 May.

Films

"Picasso, Part II" at Darat al Funun, Thursday 18 April

at 5:30 pm.

Un indien dans la ville, at The French Cultural Center, Monday 22 April at 8 pm

Tout le monde n'a pas la chance d'avoir des parents communistes, at The French Cultural Center, Monday 22 April at 10 pm

All the Presidents' Men, at the American Center, Thursday 18 April at 5:00 pm

California one in six winning numbers

Super Lotto—an out-

standing \$2.95. Of course

there's their luck with the

numbers in the pool.

From moralists who wor-

shipping a "casino culture,"

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An Imaginary Life

Dialectics between human activity and the extraordinary

An Imaginary Life, Ovid in Exile, by David Malouf, translated by Sandi Yousef, Amman, Dar Al Meda.

THIS NOVEL was written by one of the most famous contemporary Australian writers, David Malouf.

The Roman poet Ovid, in exile, tells the story of his encounter with a wild boy, brought up among wolves in the snow. At first the poet assumes the role of the protector to the boy; gradually however, the roles of protector and protected are reversed as the two form a curious and touching alliance.

This is an astonishingly beautiful book. The prose is unfailingly elegant and precise, carrying with it at times great weight and wisdom, at times casual or sensitive observation, but always with marvellous poise and grace. It is a novel of exile and a return to the very edge of memory.

The novel was highly acclaimed by the international press. Amongst them was Kathia Pollitt from The New York Times who wrote: "David Malouf has produced a work of unusual intelligence."

The British Book News wrote of Malouf: "He has created that rare thing, a novel



demanding the same sort of close and imaginative attention from the reader that has to be given to a poem."

Edmund Fuller from the Wall Street Journal wrote: "In a short space, Mr Malouf puts on a dazzling literary display in this arresting, original, lyrical work." Helen Frizel from the Australian Book Review wrote: "This most civilized book, written with simplicity and grace, is a classic of this decade, and will endure as a classic."

David Malouf was born in Brisbane in 1942 and educated at the University of Queensland. From 1964 to 1988 he lived and taught in England and travelled throughout Europe. He returned to Australia to teach English at the University of Sydney. Now a full-time writer, he lives in Sydney and spends part of each year in southern Tuscany.

His work has been translated into several European languages and has won many prizes. "Neighbors in Time"

was awarded the Grace Leven Prize for Poetry as well as the Australian Literature Society's Gold Medal. His most recent novel The Great World won the Miles Franklin Award, the Adelaide Festival Award for Literature (fiction), and two international awards: The 1991 Commonwealth Prize for fiction and the Femina Etrangère in France for best foreign novel.

This book is likely to find the acceptance and appreciation claimed by such great classics as Juhuran Khalil Juhuran's The Prophet and Hermann Hesse's Siddhartha, which deal with humans and their deepest concerns of belonging, spirituality, search for the absolute, for external harmony, peace and knowledge.

Sandi Yousef, an eminent Iraqi poet, has taken the initiative to translate this book. The translation is a perfect presentation of the book in Arabic.

Essentially, An Imaginary Life is a meditation on the dialectic between the human and the nonhuman.

David Malouf will probably be coming to Jordan on an invitation by the Australian Embassy in May, to meet with Jordanian intellectuals and journalists.

ASG Alumni-student
Summer-collection
Fashion Show

Under the patronage of HRH Princess Alia Al Faisal, the Ahliah School for Girls (ASG) Alumni is holding an summer collection fashion show at the Jordan Inter-Continental Hotel, on Monday, 22 April at 5:00 p.m.

Fashions will be provided by Elena's Boutique in Jabal al Weibdeh. This year's summer collections will be done by the alumni and by the students of the ASG. The fashion show is open to the public, and tickets are available through the ASG from Leen al Nimri (656419) and through Elena's Boutique (635311). Refreshments will be served.

Mrs Hanan Musharhash and Mrs Samia Salifi are among the board members from the ASG who will be present at the fashion show. All proceeds will go to the ASG Alumni Scholarship Fund, which benefits those students who are in financial need.

AH

Tots' corner!

The proud parents of Nayef Bassam celebrate their son's first three months of life.



INVITATION TO OFFER

Restaurant Operators / Investors

Swefiyeh Company as investors and operators of the Turino Hotel has restructured its business in an attempt to lower the risk of fluctuation in the revenues of its Food and Beverage outlets. The highest standards of food and beverage production and service, shall be maintained under the new restructuring arrangement.

Therefore, the Swefiyeh Company as operators of Turino Hotel, wish to employ a contractor for Turino Club Restaurant based on various options to be offered by the Contractor. The menu would preferably be maintained or could be adjusted by the contracting party to include Oriental, Arabic, American or other specialty cuisine that the lessee might be experienced with. The Mediterranean cuisine line should be maintained.

Option details are invited from serious Operators/Investors that would be in keeping with the highest standards of gastronomy

Please contact The Office Manager for an appointment on 863944 ext 31 or please fax your offer to 863051, attention of Ms Mandy Sinclair.

Touch of Blu by Anna Molinari at Quweider

The touch of Blu, an Italian perfume can now be found in the Quweider Trading Est.

Recently introduced in the Jordanian market, Blu, created by Anna Molinari, is designed to make every woman blush.

Under the Blumarine label and marketed by the Schiaparelli Pikenz company, Blu is the shades of glamour. In the fragrant bouquet created by one of the most perfumers in the world, every woman will recognize her signature note.

This is because Blu adapts itself to every skin with delicacy, enhancing its particular qualities while respect-

ing the masterly balance obtained. This is possible because Blu is the ideal synthesis of the Blumarine woman: femininity, unconventionality and sensuality.

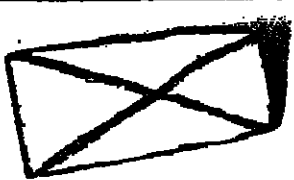
The fragrance, richly sober and elaborately composed, is the result of the most advanced technologies in olfactory research. Deep within the

Blu Blumarine is a refined mix of raw materials obtained with the exclusive "living flower" systems, a technique that captures the molecules that saturate the air surrounding the corolla of a flower in full bloom, and repre-



duce its scent with unfailing fidelity.

A press conference was held at the Inter-Continental Hotel to launch the product. Flavan especially was the Export Director of Schiaparelli Pikenz, Silvia Cella, the commercial attaché of the Italian Embassy in Amman, and Ali and Zeyad Quweider of the Quweider Trading Est.



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THE WORLD PAPER

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governments see the odds in their favor

Flirting with 'Lady Luck' for public funds

Getting people to gamble their money into the public coffers is a lot less painful than taxing it from them. Hence the worldwide proliferation of state-run lotteries—which critics say are a bad bet for the future

By George F. D. Palmer

FROM POORHOUSE TO penthouse. That's the dream of millions of gamblers who troop into lottery ticket outlets for their fix each week. Nirvana beckons. And what a Nirvana. This week, for example, the lucky holder of the winning ticket in California's SuperLotto will pocket riches beyond the wildest dreams of avarice: US\$31 million to be precise. Before tax, of course.

Picking numbers at random or scraping off \$2 scratch cards may be a far cry from the sport of kings. But lotteries offer the man-in-the-street in 37 US states (plus the Virgin Islands and the Northern Marianas) a bit of harmless excitement. And, some would argue, all in good cause. State lotteries in the US in 1995 brought in over \$32 billion and made a profit of over \$11 billion that went to supplement what state governments are otherwise able to budget for public education.

In the case of California, advisers told legislators in the mid-1980s that a state lottery would be a painless way of helping finance the state's hard-pressed public schools, colleges and universities. The Lottery Act, under which the state lottery was launched in October 1985, requires 50 percent of receipts to be returned as prizes and 34 percent to go to fund education. There's a ceiling on expenses of 16 percent. It was estimated the lottery would yield a surplus of some \$500 million of which 80 percent would go to schools from kindergarten to 12th grade, 13 percent to community colleges, 5 percent to California State University and 2 percent to the University of California.

That \$500 million estimate wildly underestimated the appetite of Californians for a modest flirt with Lady Luck at \$1 a ticket for the chance to pick the right six numbers in the SuperLotto (or a bit more for the down-market scratch cards). In its first year the lottery pulled in \$1.8 billion to yield \$693 million for education or \$129 per student per year.

Sales have since trended upward and estimates for 1994-95 are total sales of \$2.1 billion, with \$786 million going to bolster public education. That represents approximately 2 percent of the local, state and federal revenues received by the state's public education sector or \$116 for each of California's 7 million full-time students.

On the other side of the continent Floridians are even more hooked on a modest gamble. Whereas \$1.74 million Californians spent an average of \$68.24 on the lottery's six "games" in 1994-95, Florida's 13.7 million inhabitants forked out an average of \$168.14. In that year total lottery receipts were \$2.3 billion, of which 50 percent is allocated to prizes, 38 percent to education (8 percent of the education budget), and 5.5 percent goes to sales outlets.

To help players beat the lottery's formidable odds—in California one in 18,009,460 for all six winning numbers in the twice-weekly SuperLotto—an outfit called National Pools now offers 100 chances for a modest \$2.95. Of course winners have to share their luck with the other 99 participants in the pool.

Lottery fever runs high in other countries too. Apart from moralists who worry about developing a "casino culture,"

harnessing games of chance for desirable social ends sheds a patina of respectability over the powerful magnet their huge prizes present to a gullible, and often cash-strapped, public. But seldom do lotteries—or the people who run them—escape public controversy.

In Britain, for example, the recently launched national lottery has suddenly become an election weapon in the hands of the Labour Party. Critics of Camelot Group PLC, the five-member for-profit Anglo-American consortium awarded the franchise by the Conservative Party government, are labeling it "Scamlot."

At the heart of the controversy are allegations of bribery, huge salaries and schmoozing with regulators. Four UK companies are members of the Camelot consortium—beverage-giant Cadbury Schweppes, bank note-printer De La Rue, computer-maker ICL, and Racal Electronics—plus one US company, Rhode Island-based GTEch, which operates 74 lotteries for governments around the world.

REPORTING
FROM
LOS ANGELES

UK entrepreneur and chairman of Virgin Atlantic Airways Richard Branson alleged on Panorama, a BBC-TV magazine program, on December 11, 1995 that Guy B. Snowden, co-chairman of GTEch and a Camelot director, offered him an "inducement" in September 1993 to pull his group out of the bidding for the national lottery license. Since this allegation, if it proves to be true, would bring into question the fairness of the whole bidding process, the Office of the National Lottery has set up an independent inquiry.

However controversy doesn't end there. Critics have also targeted the \$682,785 pay drawn by Camelot's CEO; the consortium's half-year 1995's profit of \$37 million on revenues of \$3.9 billion; and the \$14.6 million in dividends paid to the five shareholders. They point out that the consortium had forecast that it would be four years before it would show a cash return on its investment! Meanwhile, although GTEch itself has not been charged with wrongdoing, federal prosecutors have charged its former national sales manager with taking kickbacks in New Jersey.

Britain's national lottery is required to return 50 percent of receipts in prizes, pay a 12 percent duty to the government, and pay 5 percent to ticket distributors. It allocates 28 percent to "good causes." In its first year it has already paid out £1 billion (\$1.5 billion) to some 5,000 approved "good causes" in the arts, sports and charities for which the government could not find money, with another half billion pounds still to be awarded.

Too bad sticky fingers have already taken some of the shine off the promise of "good works" that the lottery's original advocates so enthusiastically promoted. ☐

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Good causes and great wealth are uneasy bedfellows

New National Lottery buys British moral confusion

By David Sinclair

THE BRITISH ARE past masters in the art of creating moral confusion. That is what underpinned our Empire for so long, and it is one of the things that makes it so hard for foreigners to understand us.

Nowhere is our moral maze so impenetrable as in the matter of gambling. Is it merely a harmless escape into dreams of wealth or a fundamental evil that threatens to engulf society in a sea of corruption? Well, as we British are fond of saying, it all depends...

Take a £5 note (US\$7.50) out of your pocket, enter a seedy betting shop, wager the money on the horse you think is going to win the first race at Cheltenham, and you are taking part in what we like to call the sport of kings. Stake the "fiver" guessing which football team will win, lose or draw next weekend, and you are doing nothing more than indulging your passion for our national game.

But if you think of blowing your fiver on roulette, blackjack, chemin de fer and the like, you are—in British eyes—entering a danger zone. Casinos in this country are not allowed to advertise like bookmakers or football pools promoters. When you find a casino, you have to pay a membership fee and you are not allowed to gamble for 48 hours after joining. When they do let you bet, you cannot pay for your

chips by credit card. The law is very definitely trying to divert you from the path of temptation.

Nor is such an anomaly the limit of moral ambivalence. The British cannot even decide which is worse: losing money you might have spent more wisely or winning your bet. While there is much hand-wringing over the

REPORTING
FROM
LONDON

disastrous consequences of running up gambling debts, the media have long delighted in describing the downfall of benighted people who have fatally mismanaged fortunes won on the football pools.

And then, of course, there is the National Lottery, introduced after much heart-searching, debate and delay a little more than a year ago. This has placed gambling on an entirely new level, while attitudes towards it have ranged from confused to shambolic.

Some complain that the state should not be involved in gambling, but then the state does not actually run the Lottery; it only benefits from it—though conspiracy theorists mutter darkly that peoples' bets are therefore just a disguised form of taxation. Churchmen agonize about the appropriateness of the huge jackpots, yet when the five magic numbers stood to win a record £42 million recently, the media provoked a betting frenzy, with £60 million worth of tickets bought in just one day.

One man's nightmare

State-managed lotteries have their critics. One of the sharpest has been dead since 1950, but while he was alive British writer George Orwell predicted a dark future for "The Lottery."

In his novel 1984, still regarded as a classic analysis of state power carried to its logical extreme, Orwell portrayed the lottery as an instrument of social control used to divert the attention of citizens—whom he called "proles"—from the conditions created by Oceania's ruling political party.

"The Lottery," wrote Orwell, "with its weekly pay-out of enormous prizes, was the one public event to which the proles paid serious attention. It was probable that there were some millions of proles for whom the Lottery was the principal, if not the only, reason for staying alive."

In Orwell's fictitious state, the ruling party enjoyed the political benefits of the lottery—diverting the energies and attentions of the proles—without actually having to pay anything more than a token for them. The grand prizes were always "won" by creations of the party's propaganda machine.

Some aspects of Orwell's prediction ring true today. "Where the Lottery was concerned," he wrote, "even people who could barely read and write seemed capable of intricate calculations and staggering feats of memory. There was a whole tribe of men who made a living simply by selling systems, forecasts and lucky numbers."

—By Cameron Brandt

the inevitable background of their lives and so lose interest in them. There is already evidence that the newest Lottery development, scratchcards that offer instant prizes at the touch of a fingernail, is losing some of its appeal. It cannot be long before interest fades in the rest of it and the bulk of people find other silly things to do with their money.

On the other hand, what might just keep the Lottery in the forefront of the British public mind is that the odds against winning it are something like 14 million to one. ☐

DAVID SINCLAIR IS EXECUTIVE EDITOR OF *The Financial Mail on Sunday*, A LONDON-BASED NEWSPAPER.

In Asia:

Muslims leave little to chance

By M.G.G. Pillai

WEALTH, IN ALL its forms, awaits the lucky man or woman. This simplistic article of faith causes people worldwide to hope that luck will lift them out of their drab existence into luxury, and supports a phalanx of astrologers, soothsayers, lotteries—in all sizes and shapes—and other forms of legal and illegal betting.

In this Asians are no different. Nor are their governments, which, operating on the principle that none can go

bankrupt running lotteries, try to cash in. Some countries, such as Thailand, im-

prove the flow of cash into the state coffers by making it a government monopoly. Others countries have a more difficult time.

Malaysia ran a state lottery to finance social welfare services, but dropped out in the face of pressure from the Islamic community to close it down. However, before relinquishing direct control, the government licensed private companies to run the lottery and established a tax on it and on the gambling casino on Genting Hill, outside Kuala Lumpur.

This arrangement gives Malaysia a strange reputation. Its schizophrenic approach is reflected in the fact that Malaysia, setting its moral sights on a more Islamic society, also has the most efficiently organized lottery system in Asia. So far, the government of Dato' **► LITTLE TO CHANCE PAGE 2**

Crime follows winning numbers

Lotteries in Brazil carry a high price

By Carlos Castilho

IN BRAZIL, THE state-run lottery means many things. For millions it offers hope of a better life. For the government, it is a useful source of revenue. For the winners, it is a nightmare.

When a Brazilian wins one of the national lottery's major prizes, the immediate reaction is not joy, but fear. That reaction is considered normal, especially in big cities such as Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo, and Brasília, where wealth and kidnapping go side by side.

Over the past two decades, the number of people playing the lottery increased almost 30 times, prizes grew tenfold, and the race for instant fortunes became a national obsession. Today the chances that you will become a millionaire are almost five times greater than in the 1960s. But the price of fortune is very high.

Being a nameless winner is a key condition for survival in parts of Brazil. The ones who forget this golden rule risk forfeiting a considerable part of their prize—or their life—to the local mafia. Last December, approximately 40 residents of Rio de Janeiro, all wealthy or related to rich families, spent New Year's Eve in captivity.

Sergio Cutolo Santos, president of Caixa Economica Federal, the state bank that has the monopoly of lotteries and legal gambling in Brazil, said that his staff is now experienced in dealing with unorthodox situations. "Big winners never show up. They send lawyers or representatives, who are equally contaminated by fear. They generally call us by phone saying that they will

send a photocopy of the lottery ticket as a proof of the prize claim, but will only appear to collect the money several months later, when nobody is paying attention anymore."

But fear only afflicts the winners. The number of fortune seekers is

steadily growing. One in five Brazilians bets regularly in one or more of the 10 different lotteries and lotto games sponsored by Caixa Economica. It's a market with approximately 30 million consumers, who spend an estimated \$100 million monthly trying to get an entrance ticket to the instant millionaire's club.

Caixa Economica pays a big prize almost every day of the week. There are two ticket lotteries, drawn on Wednesdays and Saturdays, one sports lotto (based on the results of 13 soccer matches), three lotto numbers and four instant lotteries where you scratch tickets for hidden prizes. The Wednesday lottery pays US\$195,000 (200,000 reais in Brazilian money) as the main prize, and offers another 13,500 smaller prizes. The weekend lottery distributes 67,000 prizes ranging from \$7.80 to \$397,000. The various lotto games pay more money—as much as \$7 million—but have fewer

winners. Brazil's lotto mania began in the early 1970s when the military, which ruled the country with an iron fist from 1964 to 1984, decided to combat the illegal lottery and secure a share of its revenues for the state. Called Jogo do Bicho, (animal game), this illegal lottery was—and is—extremely popular among the urban poor. Caixa Economica started with the



sports lottery and later developed many other games, but never succeeded in reducing the popularity of Bicho.

The illegal lottery has daily drawings, and each bid costs less than 25 cents. The big prizes are small compared with the legal lottery, but people in the big cities remain faithful for three main reasons: price, proximity and credibility.

Poor people can afford to buy at least one number. The illegal lottery operates on almost every street corner, especially in the poor northern zone of Rio de Janeiro, where informal agents receive the bets and pay the smaller prizes. "The Bicho makes poor people millionaires in a social context where life is

extremely difficult and hardships are a routine feature. For these people \$4,980 dollars is a lot of money, and major prizes like \$100,000 are a fortune and a dream," wrote the writer and syndicated columnist Carlos Heitor

Cony, from *Manchete* magazine. The Bicho barons are extremely rich and have invested millions in the samba schools and the Carnival Parade of Rio de Janeiro. It's their way of flaunting their illegal money and getting social recognition.

Almost 80 percent of the net income of the illegal lottery is distributed as prizes. This is much more than the approximately 60 percent allocated by the Caixa Economica Federal, which keeps between 33 and 40 percent of the revenue. After operating expenses are deducted, this money goes to partially finance sports, prisons, culture, the social security system, education and the public health system.

The legal lottery is also used by some very important Brazilians for money laundering. Last year the President of the Budget Committee of Brazil's lower chamber of Congress tried to justify his huge personal fortune with a simple explanation: "I won the lottery more than 100 times," said Representative Joao Santos, suspected of corruption on a grand scale. Though winning the lottery that often is technically possible, nobody believed him. □

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LITTLE TO CHANCE

Continued from page 1

Seri Mahathir Mohamed has deflected fundamentalist Muslim pressure to ban all forms of lottery and gambling. One cabinet minister, speaking with the frankness that comes with anonymity, likened this approach to the Arab proverb: "Believe in God, but keep an eye on the camel."

By contrast, China, India, the Philippines, Thailand, Indonesia and Singapore eschew attempts to establish private gambling casinos, but operate successful government-run lotteries, with prizes of up to US\$2 million. In these countries the proceeds fuel public works and social welfare projects. That used to be the case in Malaysia until the hugely successful Social Welfare Lottery closed down.

Governments cashing in on the craze for lotteries and games of chance depend a lot on the Chinese community. A visit to the Genting Hill casino confirms this, with its largely Chinese clientele replicated in casinos through the Asia Pacific region. The Genting Hill casino, built and initially operated with help from the Walker Hill complex in South Korea, was so successful that the consultants were dismissed within a year of its opening.

Another variation favored by private gambling businesses are cruises to nowhere. Boats leave Singapore for weekends, with gambling laid out for the passengers once they are safely outside territorial waters. Singapore makes no bones about why these lotteries are needed to fund public works, and it is resisting pressures for a private casino. There is talk now that one may be set up in the Indonesian island of Batam, opposite Singapore, to attract the rich gamblers from the city-state.

In Malaysia, little is said about how much the 5 percent tax on gambling is worth. The reluctance stems from religious sensitivities. Indonesia, which once had a profitable gambling industry, with several casinos, abruptly shut them down because of religious opposition, mostly from the Muslim community.

Beside the legal methods of gambling, a hierarchy of illegal lotteries and numbers games vie for public attention. In every state in Asia, several forms of illegal lotteries compete headlong with the official ones. Despite the best efforts of the law enforcement agencies, they thrive. This durability stems from one simple fact: they meet their obligations. In the 1960s, when this correspondent worked in Singapore, one of my colleagues, on the eve of retirement, bet \$150 of his gratuity on a numbers game and collected \$450,000.

The political, bureaucratic belief that government finances can be improved by pandering to the "get rich quick" prospect of a lottery win, does not have an easy ride. Opposition, usually on moral and religious grounds, continues to make operators and governments cautious. But the prospect of revenue that does not irk taxpayers is too tempting.

State-sponsored gambling also builds its own constituency. Over time a network is built up, with booths and ticket sellers providing employment. In Thailand, the tickets are sold mostly by handicapped people, giving them something to do in a society notoriously harsh on such people.

In addition, the lotteries have also established their own bureaucracy. Almost all India's states have their own lottery schemes, for instance, and hundreds of thousands of people are involved in regulating, administering and peddling them; for many it is the only jobs they are ever likely to have. □

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The Star's TV GUIDE

Programs on JTV from 13-19 April

GoldStar

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Cinema

ENGLISH PROGRAMS

SATURDAY

2:00—Moomin
2:30—Pumpkin Patch
3:00—Big Brother Jake
3:30—Blue Heelers
4:00—TAO
5:00—News Flash
5:01—French Programs
5:30—News Headlines
7:30—Major Dad
8:00—Discovering the 7th Continent
8:30—A Fine Romance
9:10—Earth Assignment
9:30—Prison
10:00—News at Ten
10:25—The Bold and the Beautiful
11:10—Feature Film: *Listen to Your Heart*, starring: Kate Jackson and Tim Matheson

SUNDAY

2:00—The Flintstones
2:30—The Adventure of the Rainbow Pond
3:00—Mac and Muttley
4:00—TAO
5:00—News Flash
5:01—French Programs
5:30—News Headlines
7:30—Baskerville P.D.
8:00—Cinema, Cinema
8:25—Women of the World
8:45—Magazine 01
9:00—Murphy Brown
9:30—Heartbeat
10:00—News at Ten
10:25—The Bold and the Beautiful
11:10—Counterstrike

MONDAY

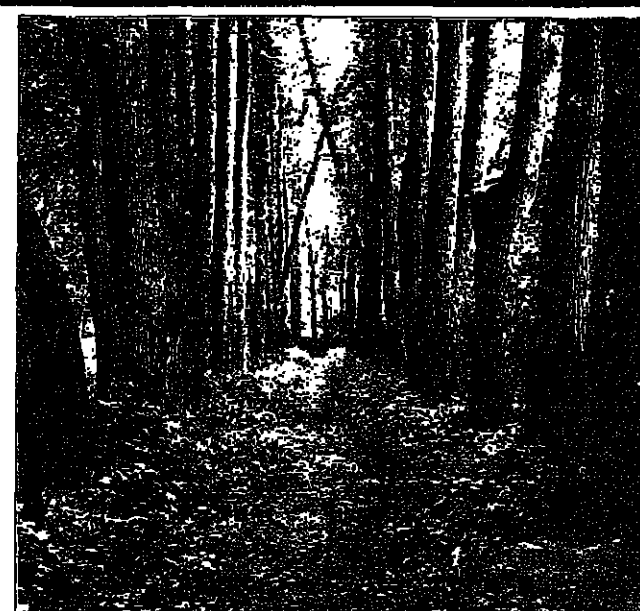
2:00—Bonkers
2:30—Richie Rich
3:00—Bush School
3:15—Playabout
3:30—Bustin' Loose
4:00—Animals of the Mediterranean
4:30—TAO

TUESDAY

5:00—News Flash
5:01—French Programs
5:30—News Headlines
7:30—The Nanny
8:00—Baby It's You
8:25—Rock Around The World
9:00—World Echo
9:10—100 Years of Capitalism in Korea
10:00—News at Ten
10:25—The Bold and the Beautiful
11:10—P.S.I. Luv U
12:00—Taurus Rising
12:40—Ellen

WEDNESDAY

2:00—The Flintstones
2:30—Speed Racer
2:50—Bill Nye the Science Guy
3:15—Dinosaurs
3:45—The Secret World of Alex Mac
4:00—Summary of the Italian Football League
5:00—News Flash



The Private Life of Plants on Friday at 2:10 pm.

5:01—French Programs
5:30—News Headlines
7:30—Evening Shade
8:00—World Net
8:30—Varieties
8:35—Meat
9:20—Hunter
10:00—News at Ten
10:25—The Bold and the Beautiful
11:10—Airlwolf
12:00—The Silk Road
12:40—Bugs

THURSDAY

1:00—Aladdin
1:30—Treasure Island
2:00—My Secret Identity
2:20—NBA
3:15—The Crystal Maze
3:40—Pirates
4:30—Gillette World Sport
5:00—French Programs
7:30—News Headlines
7:35—Carol and Company

8:00—Nasty Boys
8:45—It Had To Be You
9:10—She's Out
10:00—News at Ten
10:25—Classic Movie: *Lover Come Back*, starring: Rock Hudson
10:25—Una Festa L'Europa Live From Bologna

PROGRAMMES EN FRANÇAIS

SAMEDI

5:00—Dessins animés
5:15—Spectacle
5:30—Série
6:00—Série
6:00—Série
7:00—Le journal
7:15—Faut pas rêver

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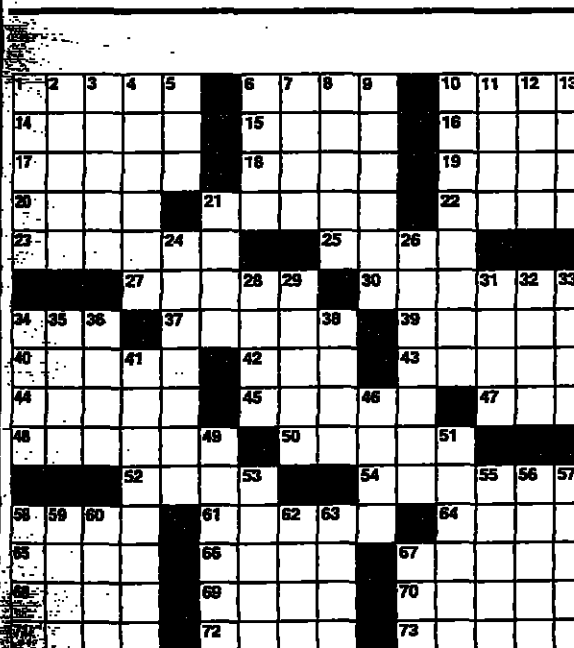
5:00—Dessins animés
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5:30—Série
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5:00—Dessins animés
5:15—Spectacle
5:30—Série
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Programs are subject to change by JTV

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS: 1—At Sea; 4—Asian capital; 10—Thailand; 14—Mature; 15—Upon; 16—Different; 17—The diver; 18—Points of convergence; 19—Apportion; 20—The Red; 21—Lag time; 22—Leave; 23—Brazilian port; 25—Talk back; 27—Reflexion; 28—Small; 29—Smother; 30—Decorate; 31—Staircase; 32—Forward; 33—TV's Majors; 34—Frog's noise; 41—Call forth; 42—Some students; 43—abhor; 44—Fit for; 45—Habitual; 46—Fast time; 47—Edit; 48—Great canine; 49—Behuddled; 50—Brainstorm; 51—Any's; 52—partner; 53—Some tea; 54—Real with a laggon; 55—Ado; 56—Any, for one; 57—Shade; 58—source; 59—English school; 60—Lock of hair; 61—Challenge; 62—Love; 63—Pop or jazz; 64—See 45A; 65—Saur; 66—Maid; 67—Secure; 68—Particulate; 69—Center of activity; 70—Unspoken; 71—Sun-dried brick; 72—Cubicles; 73—Stories; 74—Slightly mad; 75—Asian river; 76—Facial feature; 77—Greek; 78—Briton; 79—Anthony; 80—Social insect

—THIS WEEK'S—
HOROSCOPE

By Linda Black

Weekly Tip: The most noticeable conflict is between reality and fantasy. Visions come easily; production's more difficult.

Aries (March 21-April 19). Details make the difference between pass and fail. Expect confusion with travel and foreign languages. The right partner pushes you to win.

Taurus (April 20-May 20). You're lucky with love and business. Complications arise regarding financing, but love gets even better.

Gemini (May 21-June 21). Change living arrangements. Life gets more difficult as a sweetheart puts demands on your time. You'll find the right words easily.

Cancer (June 22-July 22). You'll learn quickly so study tough subjects. There are more interruptions but you'll still be sharp. You may fall in love again.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22). Money comes in but goes quickly. Stash some for later or you'll get a scolding. Catch up on reading. Romantic commitments will stick.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You're sharp but the competition's stiff. Your chances improve when another is eliminated. Go shopping for pretty things.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Finish an overdue project and get it in. Cut costs to save money. Paying closer attention to your work leads to a breakthrough. Push yourself so you can go shopping.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Friends come to your aid. Resolve a romantic conflict and your life will mellow out. Pay bills and catch up on reading.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Don't argue with a perfectionist. It wastes your time and annoys the perfectionist. Get over your resistance; there's lots of work required.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your plans are thwarted by a friend's needs. Try again later; you'll be luckier with everything.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Apply for loans or grants. Group activities hit a snag. A friend can help you find another source of financing.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20). The competition's tough, but you're tougher. Watch out for a supervisor's error. Relax and you'll find the right words.

If You're Having a Birthday This Week: A smart partner helps you stay on track this year. Make the commitment. A creative idea helps pay off old debts.

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Bridge

Master of the Green Baize
By Tannah Hirsch

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

♠ A 7 6 4 3
♥ K Q J 4
♦ 8 7 2
♣ K

WEST

♠ 10
♥ 9 7 6
♦ K 4 3
♣ J 10 7 6 5 2

EAST

♠ Q 9 8 2
♥ 10 8 3
♦ J 10 9 5
♣ 9 4

SOUTH

♠ K J 5
♥ A 5 2
♦ A Q 6
♣ A Q 8 3

The bidding:

South West North East

2NT Pass 3+ Pass

30 Pass 3+ Pass

4+ Pass 4NT Pass

5+ Pass 5+ Pass

5+ Pass 6NT Pass

Pass Pass

Opening lead: Six of ♠

♠ Octogenarian David Treddwell of

Wilmington, Del., is still a feared

competitor in the tournament bridge

arena. At rubber bridge, septuagenarian

Boris Koytchou of New York still

displays the skills that made him an

international star first for France then,

later, for the United States. Here's an

example of his bidding judgment from a rubber-bridge game at New York's famed Regency Whist Club.

After his partner opened two no

trump Koytchou, North, first checked

on South having a four-card major,

then showed a five-card spade suit.

North-South were employing Key-

Card Blackwood, where the king of

trumps counted as an ace, and South

promised four "aces" by responding

five diamonds. Five hearts asked for

the queen of trumps, and five spades

denied holding it. Most players

would now have bid the small slam in

spades, but Koytchou placed the final

contract in no trump.

There was nothing to play. The

club opening lead was won in

dummy and the ace of spades was

cashed. When a spade to the jack

revealed the 4-1 split, declarer simply

unblocked the king, entered dummy

with a heart and conceded a trick to

the queen of spades. Declarer eventually

scored four spades, four hearts,

one diamond and three clubs.

Note that six spades falls with normal

play. Assuming East leads the

jack of diamonds, correct technique

would be to win the ace and cross to

the king of clubs. Since the odds

favor a 3-2 trump split over a finesse

for the queen by a whopping 28 per-

cent, declarer continues by cashing

the ace and king of spades, planning

to concede a trump trick after discarding

diamond losers on South's high

clubs. Unfortunately, that sets up two

losers.

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Jumble

Unscramble these four words, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

MURYM

MUBOX

NOYKED

REEBOF

Answer here: _____ AND _____

Answer: ROOM AND BORED

Answers: ROOM AND BORED

Words of Wisdom

Good wishes are more important than gifts because they can't be bought.

By the time you realize you have a reputation, it's too late to change it.

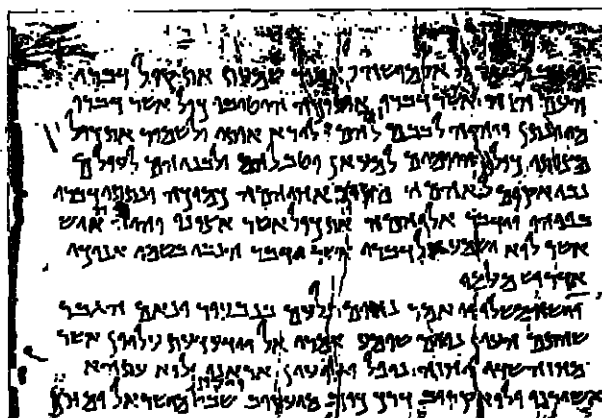
Passions may make people feel more intensely, but they often don't see as well as they once did.

High principles mean nothing if you don't abide by them.

Never expect anyone but yourself to keep a secret.

Vanity allows the smallest spark to be fanned into a full blaze.

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The Dead Sea
scrolls come alive

AMMAN (Star)—A lot have been brought to the fore in a series of lectures delivered throughout the Kingdom on the Dead Sea scrolls by British expert, Dr George Brook.

Dr Brook, director of the Manchester-Sheffield Center for Dead Sea Scrolls Research at the Manchester University, was in the country for a 10-day to make arrangements for an exhibition on Dead Sea Scrolls which is to be held in Manchester between September to December 1997.

HRH Crown Prince Hassan is expected to attend the opening of the exhibition which marks the 50th anniversary of the first discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls.

Brook said that the Jordanian Copper Scroll opened in Manchester in 1955 and 1956 is expected to form the centerpiece of the exhibition.

He told *The Star* that the reason behind his lectures was to draw attention to the rich collection of the fragmentary scroll remains which are in "The National Archaeological Museum in Amman that many people are not aware of." He maintained that there are examples of all three kinds of scrolls found in the eleven caves at Qumran on the North West shore of the Dead Sea. "Some Manuscripts are copies of the biblical books," he said. Some express the views of the group, probably the Essenes, who brought the collection of texts together at Qumran. Some manuscripts reflect more broadly the literature of Judaism of the late second temple period (200 BCE-70 CE).

He explained that there is the famous copper scroll that describes briefly 64 places where gold, silver and other items were buried. "Most scholars think the scroll refers to real treasure but the quantities have been vastly exaggerated," he said. Its contents should probably be connected in some way with the Jewish temple in Jerusalem which the Romans destroyed in 70 CE. It is the only Dead Sea scroll written on copper. Though it is a treasure itself, none of the treasures it describes have ever been found in modern times nor is likely to be, Brook underlined.

He also spoke interestingly about the Jewish interpretation of the Hebrew Bible which is represented in the scrolls. "There is interpretation of the Biblical laws," he said. He emphasized that there are narratives from the Bible which are commented upon and there is interpretation which relates the oracles of the prophets to the times of the commentator. Brook believes prophesy is fulfilled in his intriguing experiences with the scrolls.

He assured that scrolls provide a much better picture of the Judaism of the first centuries BC and CE out of which both Rabbinic Judaism and early Christianity emerged.

"No new testament manuscripts have been found at Qumran," he pointed out, nor is Jesus ever mentioned in the scrolls—he was not an Essene. ■

HERE LIES MY WIFE

LET HER LIE NOW SHE'S AT REST AND SO AM

Le Jourdain

Supplément en français du Star

Rolf Ekeus attendu aujourd'hui à Bagdad

● Rolf Ekeus (notre photo), le chef de la Commission spéciale de l'Onu chargée du désarmement irakien (UNSCOM), est attendu aujourd'hui en Irak où il doit s'entretenir avec différents responsables, et notamment le ministre du pétrole Amer Rachid. Sa dernière visite remonte au mois de décembre.

L'UNSCOM a précisé que cette visite n'était pas liée aux discussions actuelles qui se déroulent à New-York sur la formule «pétrole contre nourriture», mais entre dans le cadre des visites régulières de Rolf Ekeus en Irak.

L'Irak a refusé de répondre lundi aux dernières propositions de l'Onu faites dans le cadre des négociations «pétrole contre nourriture». Les changements proposés par l'Onu concernaient la distribution de l'aide aux Kurdes dans le nord de l'Irak, un sujet qui constitue un obstacle majeur à l'obtention d'un accord. Le chef des négociateurs irakiens, Abdel Amir Al-Anbari, a déclaré lundi qu'il comptait demander des explications aux Nations unies sur les raisons qui ont conduit à introduire ces changements.

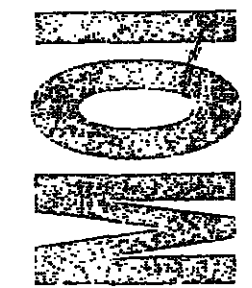


Canular collectif?

Les médias et les forces de police présents dimanche à Pétra ont passé une journée bien tranquille. Les mystérieux membres d'une secte néerlandaise qui semblaient avoir choisi Pétra pour commettre un «suicide collectif», n'ont pas donné signe de vie.

La médiatisation de leur projet les a peut-être fait changer d'avis. Des mesures de précaution avaient en tout cas été prises sur le site dimanche, telles que l'interdiction de monter aux «Hauts lieux du sacrifice». Des mesures qui semblent avoir été efficaces, à moins que toute cette histoire n'ait été qu'un «canular collectif».

SELON



Celui qui a fait le voyage la semaine dernière pour reconforter les Libanais dans leur malheur n'est pas Louis XIV venant accorder à nouveau sa protection aux Maronites. Ce n'est pas non plus Napoléon III qui vient accompagner ses troupes pour porter secours aux montagnards chrétiens contre leurs méchants frères Druzes. C'est tout simplement l'élève et l'héritier de celui qui reste 25 ans après sa mort un véritable mythe dans nos pays, Charles de Gaulle. Un homme qui, dans sa tombe, peut être fier de celui qui s'acharne pour que la France redevenue grande, respectable et indépendante, Jacques Chirac.

Le président français n'est pas dupe. Il sait qu'il ne possède pas de remède miracle permettant de guérir la région de tous ses maux. Il connaît bien le théâtre du Moyen-Orient où se joue depuis quelques années un enchevêtrement de manœuvres pour lequel les spectateurs sont obligés d'acheter, à prix élevé, des billets leur donnant droit à un spectacle sanglant.

M. Chirac sait qu'avant de réussir, il lui faudra convaincre, non seulement des régimes arabes pressés de tous les côtés, mais aussi une opinion publique française et des médias fortement pro-Israéliens. Il n'ignore pas que les ennemis sont redoutables et qu'aucun ne veut voir son hégémonie remise en question. Mais il entend faire savoir à ceux qui ont cru enterrer la France dans leurs équations qu'elle existe et qu'elle ne peut rester inerte face aux dangers inévitables de leur cruauté et leur injustice.

Le président français est venu au Liban demander que la confiance prenne la relève du désespoir, et que la volonté et le courage remplacent la lassitude pour reconstruire l'avenir de ce petit pays qui haigne dans la haine, la violence et l'indifférence du monde entier. De Beyrouth et du Caire, il s'est adressé aux citoyens de la région toute entière, sans ambiguïté, pour rétablir la confiance entre la France et le Machrek, sans faire mystère de la volonté de la France de jouer un rôle politique et économique dans la région.

Il refuse, au nom de la France, la légitimation d'un nouvel ordre mondial acceptant la mort de certains enfants pour que d'autres vivent heureux. Mais comme en septembre 86 ou lors de l'été 95, à chaque fois que la France tente de s'industrialiser par des principes libéraux, humains et indépendants, les ténés collectives menées par les Israéliens reprennent. Elles sont portées d'un message clair de mécontentement qui réaffirme la volonté de certains de gérer la destinée des peuples selon leurs intérêts propres.

Difficile est la mission de M. Chirac mais grand est son courage. Il est en effet audacieux de vouloir désamorcer à l'évidence de l'injustice et de refuser de transformer la région en véritable jungle à des fins électoralistes, ou bien simplement pour que certains puissent reconstruire de leurs propres mains ce qu'ils avaient détruit de leurs propres armes quelques années auparavant.

Souhail Al Sweis,

Cinéma

Khleïfi nous conte son film

Le quatrième film de Michel Khleïfi, «Conte des trois diamants», est à l'affiche depuis plusieurs semaines à Amman. Un conte dans lequel se mêlent l'imaginaire de deux enfants et la réalité de la bande de Gaza.

Après trois films dramatiques, vous avez choisi de faire un film sur l'enfance. Pourquoi ce choix?

Michel Khleïfi: C'est un choix qui s'est imposé à moi. Parce que le sujet des enfants de l'Intifada est vraiment très important. Mais j'avais besoin de temps pour le préparer. Pour savoir comment l'enfance palestinienne affronte la vie après l'Intifada, il fallait peu à peu l'amener à sortir de son empiètement géographique et physique. Pour lui donner le moyen de rêver à un avenir meilleur.

Comment peut-on insérer ce film dans votre carrière?

Michel Khleïfi: Il s'inscrit dans la continuité. Mon projet cinématographique était de pouvoir filmer l'expérience palestinienne sous l'occupation israélienne en me rendant dans les différentes régions palestiniennes.

Dans «Mémoire fertile», j'ai filmé la Galilée et la Cisjordanie. Dans «Noces en Galilée», c'était la Galilée et la Jordanie avec un parallèle entre la campagne et la ville. L'action de «Cantique des pierres» se déroulait entre Jérusalem et Gaza alors que dans ce film, je ne m'intéresse qu'à Gaza.

Pourquoi avoir choisi de mêler dans ce film le fantastique au réel?

Michel Khleïfi: Parce que le conte est l'élément le plus proche de l'univers de l'enfant. Il lui permet de croire au réel tout en lui donnant une vision imaginaire. C'est une sorte d'échappatoire.

Vous avez eu pour ce film une expérience de co-production. Comment l'avez-vous vécue, et peut-on, selon vous, envisager dans l'avenir des coproductions entre les pays du sud de la Méditerranée et ceux du Nord?

Michel Khleïfi: C'est une expérience de co-production. Comment l'avez-vous vécue, et peut-on, selon vous, envisager dans l'avenir des coproductions entre les pays du sud de la Méditerranée et ceux du Nord?

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Michel Khleïfi: Je pense que le cinéma mondial actuel est basé sur la coproduction. Il n'y a pas un cinéma national, et surtout en Europe, qui n'ait besoin de s'appuyer sur une coproduction avec d'autres pays. Cette formule est avantageuse financièrement car les films coûtent de plus en plus cher, et elle permet une meilleure distribution pour le film. Ceci est valable pour nous et pour les Européens.

Mais selon moi, il y a un élément supplémentaire, c'est le transfert de technologie et du savoir. Je pense par exemple que si la Jordanie ou n'importe quel pays arabe coproduit un film avec des pays européens, elle peut bénéficier d'une sorte de coopération technologique, scientifique et artistique.

Propos recueillis par Ahmad N'Sour

Un cinéaste palestinien indépendant

Né à Nazareth, Michel Khleïfi fait partie des Palestiniens qui n'ont pas évacué la Palestine en 1948. Son œuvre suit la vie des Palestiniens des territoires autonomes. C'est en Belgique qu'il a découvert, puis étudié le cinéma. Un éloignement qui lui a permis de ne pas rejoindre le sérial des cinéastes palestiniens tournant autour de l'OLP, lui conférant ainsi une certaine indépendance.

Ses films traitent de la question palestinienne avec une grande douceur, mêlant l'aspect humain et politique de l'occupation israélienne. Ainsi, dans son premier film, «Mémoire fertile», il traite à la fois de la dépossession de la terre par le gouvernement militaire et de la répression de la femme par la société arabe. Dans «Noces en Galilée», il plaide pour la réconciliation judéo-arabe.

Dans «Conte des trois diamants» il s'en prend au contraire violemment à Israël. Il dépeint la réalité de la bande de Gaza, avec ses assassinats et ses injustices. Un film dans lequel certaines séquences sont très proches du documentaire, comme l'était son précédent long-métrage sur l'Intifada, «Cantique des pierres».



Education

Fuheis et Strasbourg font durer l'échange

Une quinzaine de lycéens strasbourgeois viennent de passer trois semaines à l'école latine de Fuheis. Un échange scolaire qui ne leur a donné qu'une envie: revenir dès que possible.

Les lycéens strasbourgeois sont unanimes: «Le pays est beau, les gens sont très accueillants et l'ambiance incroyable».

Pendant trois semaines, un groupe de treize élèves français accompagné par trois professeurs, ont découvert la vie «à la jordanienne» à Fuheis en expérimentant la deuxième langue linguistique et culturelle réalisées entre le lycée Jean Monnet d'un côté, et l'école latine de garçons et la lycée public de jeunes filles de l'autre.

Le premier échange réalisé entre Fuheis et Strasbourg en 1994, faisait figure de nouveauté dans les traditionnels échanges scolaires de l'hexagone. C'était en effet la première fois qu'une classe française et une classe arabe décidaient d'organiser un échange complet comprenant une immersion dans les familles. Une formule que le lycée Jean Monnet expérimentait déjà depuis longtemps avec de nombreux établissements scolaires en Europe, et qui a séduit la proviseur de Fuheis, «Je crois à l'échange culturel», explique Madame Hadad, «car il offre l'opportunité de découvrir les richesses culturelles d'un pays ou d'une région et d'échanger des idées avec des étrangers».

Les lycéens français, dont certains d'origine maghrébine sont musulmans, ont été hébergés par des chrétiens à Fuheis, dans cette ville où chrétiens et musulmans cohabitent depuis de nombreuses générations. «C'est l'illustration de la cohabitation pour nous un excellent moyen de lutter contre les idées préconçues qui traînent dans les cours des écoles», explique Pierre Greib, l'un des professeurs du lycée Jean Mon-

net.

«Leur emploi du temps est toujours rempli», souligne Madame Hadad. Le matin, ils se retrouvent à l'école pour assister à des cours en arabe ou en anglais avec leurs correspondants. De nombreuses excursions dans tout le pays étaient elles aussi au programme.

«Et le français dans tout ça?», s'interroge la directrice de l'école latine en souriant. «Nous souhaitons introduire cet enseignement dans l'avenir. Nous avons commencé des démarches dans ce but».

«Une ouverture sur le monde arabe»

Pour les élèves français, ce voyage était un moyen de mettre en pratique leurs connaissances. L'arabe étant enseigné depuis le début des années 80 au lycée Jean Monnet. «Je suis content d'être dans un pays arabe et de pouvoir parler ma langue», explique Allala. «Cela fait trois ans que je ne suis pas allé en Tunisie, mais ici, je me sens chez moi».

Beaucoup ont en effet été surpris de découvrir un mode de vie qui ressemblait beaucoup au leur. A tel point que certains se voyaient bien prolonger leur séjour. «Il suffit que j'apprenne l'arabe et après c'est bon», glisse l'un d'eux. Dans l'immédiat, c'est l'anglais qui a servi de langue de communication pour les non-arabisants.

Le voyage est revenu pour chaque élève à 2000 francs. «Il a fallu trouver des subventions pour diviser le coût réel du voyage par deux», explique Jean-Pierre Radigue, proviseur du lycée Jean Monnet. Des aides provenant essentiellement de la mairie de Strasbourg et du Fonds d'action sociale.



Les lycéens strasbourgeois, ici entourés de certains de leurs accompagnateurs, retrouveront à l'automne leurs correspondants pour leur faire découvrir la France.

L'idée de cet échange revient à Miryam Demand, professeur d'arabe au lycée Jean Monnet. Originaire de Palestine, dont une des sœurs était enseignante à l'école latine de Fuheis. Ce projet a ensuite séduit Madame Hadad. «C'est une occasion unique de combiner apprentissage des langues et ouverture culturelle sur le monde arabe trop souvent caricaturé ou déformé dans les mé-

Mona Kaddoumi

Politique intérieure

Les islamistes divisés

La Jordanie pourrait voir se créer un deuxième parti islamiste. Une décision qui, selon certains députés islamiste, ne pourrait qu'affaiblir le mouvement islamiste dans le pays.

La décision

de quelques membres du Front d'action islamique (FAI) de démissionner et de créer un nouveau parti peut sembler logique au vu des dissensions internes que connaît ce parti et de son incapacité à rassembler ses membres sous une seule direction. Theib Abdullah, membre de la chambre basse des députés qui a démissionné du FAI voilà quelques semaines, estime que la direction du parti ne satisfait plus les aspirations de ses membres et il voit comme une solution la création d'un nouveau parti incluant les islamistes indépendants, les membres démissionnaires du FAI et ceux qui voudraient quitter le parti.

Theib Abdullah et Ahmad Kasasbeh, député lui aussi, ont démissionné du FAI juste après le vote de confiance au gouvernement de M. Kabarti. Ils estiment que ce nouveau gouvernement formé en février se différencie des gouvernements précédents par ses promesses d'entamer des changements radicaux, notamment au niveau de la lutte pour les libertés publiques et contre la corruption. Lors du vote, Ahmad Kasasbeh s'est abstenu, alors que Theib Abdullah a lui voté la confiance. Anticipant des mesures

de représailles, ils ont alors décidé de quitter le FAI.

Theib Abdullah affirme aujourd'hui vouloir créer un nouveau parti. Selon lui, certains membres insatisfaits avec la façon dont le FAI gère ses affaires internes et externes pourraient le rejoindre. Tout comme de nombreux islamistes indépendants, et notamment certains qui avaient quitté le FAI juste après sa création en octobre 1992.

«On ne peut pas lancer des slogans comme celui d'une société islamiste» alors que l'on sait que c'est irréaliste», explique Theib Abdullah. «Le FAI vit dans une dualité entre ce qu'il préconise et ce qu'il est vraiment capable de faire.»

La crainte de nouvelles divisions

Selon lui, le nouveau parti serait plus au fait des réalités, surtout au niveau de sa participation au gouvernement de M. Kabarti. Tandis que quelques courants islamistes jugent comme une trahison toute participation à un gouvernement qui normalise ses relations avec Israël, Theib Abdullah considère que celle-ci est possible. Mais elle ne doit pas être interprétée comme une acceptation de la politique de normalisation, mais bien plus comme un

moyen d'influencer la politique gouvernementale.

«La participation au gouvernement est la même que celle au sein du parlement. Les deux ont pour but l'intérêt du pays», réchérît Theib Abdullah. «De plus, les islamistes ont déjà participé au gouvernement après l'acceptation des résolutions 242 et 338 du Conseil de sécurité des Nations-Unies».

Hammam Saeed, lui aussi député du FAI, adopte une position inverse. Pour lui, la participation au gouvernement est en contradiction flagrante avec les principes du FAI. Ils pensent que cette ligne ne doit pas bouger, et que le fait que quelques membres soit en désaccord avec cette politique ne peut pas influencer ou affaiblir le mouvement.

Rafef Nijim, qui faisait partie en 1992 des 16 démissionnaires, lie les dissensions actuelles au manque de démocratie au sein du parti. Il souhaitait à une époque créer un nouveau parti, une alternative qui ne lui semble aujourd'hui plus viable. «Si un nouveau parti est fondé des dissensions se créeront entre les deux organisations, et finalement, c'est l'ensemble du mouvement islamiste dans le royaume qui en souffrira».

Sa'eda Kilani

Infrastructure

Amman voit le bout du tunnel

Commencés le 1er mars, les travaux de construction du tunnel passant sous le cinquième cercle se sont achevés dans un temps record: 45 jours au lieu de 60 prévus.

Depuis le 1er mars

1996, les conducteurs qui avaient l'habitude de filer vers le cinquième cercle et au-delà devaient emprunter d'innombrables détours entre les beaux quartiers entourant ce carrefour. Sans doute le faisaient-ils sans trop rechigner, estimant après tout que c'était pour eux que la municipalité d'Amman avait entrepris ces travaux ayant pour but de désengorger la circulation sur cet axe central de la ville.

Mais depuis hier, finis les zig-zags. Ils peuvent désormais choisir entre prendre un tunnel sous le cinquième cercle, ou bien passer par le carrefour. Pourtant, jusqu'à la veille de l'inauguration de cet ouvrage, les équipements lourds, les grues, les rouleaux compresseurs travaillaient encore dans le but de relever le défi fixé voilà quelques semaines: terminer le tunnel en moins de soixante jours.

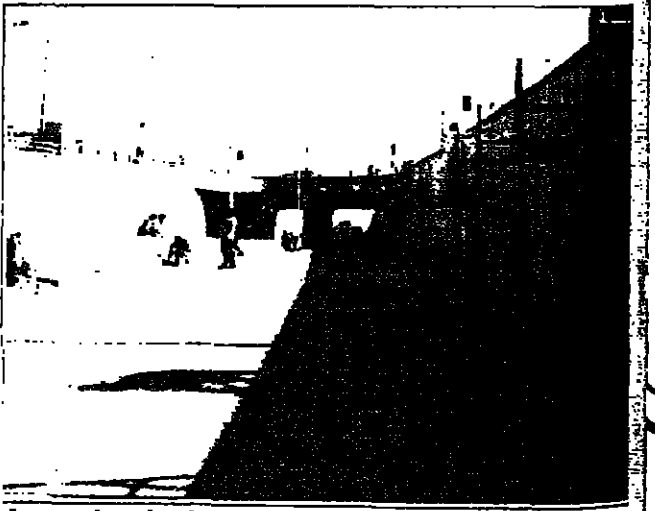
Ce projet a coûté un million de dinars à la municipalité d'Amman. «Ce tunnel n'absorbera que 35 % de la circulation sur ce carrefour, mais il fallait trouver une solution, ce cercle connaissant une très importante circulation aux heures de pointe», explique Salem Sawadha, ingénieur la municipalité d'Amman à la tête de ce chantier.

Les nouvelles voies construites sous le cinquième cercle mesurent 340 mètres, la partie souterraine faisant 68 mètres. Le tunnel atteint 5 mètres de hauteur, pour 18 de large.

Salem Sawadha, peut être fier de la réalisation de ces travaux. Il disposait en effet de soixante jours pour les terminer, et a ramené ce délai à 45 jours. «Ces travaux ont été exécutés dans un temps record grâce, notamment, à l'action efficace du maire d'Amman Mahmoud Abadi», explique-t-il. Une volonté de terminer dans les temps partagée sur le terrain par tout le personnel qui a multiplié les heures supplémentaires.

Objectif rapidité

L'entreprise sou-traitante chargée de la partie béton du projet a dû se plier aux mêmes délais. Tout le reste des travaux a été réalisé par la municipalité d'Amman: les études de projet,



Jusque dans les dernières heures précédant l'inauguration qui a eu lieu mercredi, les ouvriers se sont activés sur le chantier pour terminer dans les temps.

la signalisation, l'apathage... Le seul gros problème rencontré a été la chute d'arbres abondants juste après les travaux d'excavation. Le sol étant perméable, il a fallu attendre un peu que les eaux soient drainées naturellement.

«Depuis 1993, la municipalité s'est fixée pour objectif la rapidité dans l'exécution des travaux publics», ajoute Salem Sawadha.

Cette réussite devrait pousser la municipalité à faire encore plus pour la ville.

Après les conducteurs, elle pourrait par exemple s'intéresser aux piétons. Seuls cer-

tains passages piétonniers sont réalisés pour assurer leur sécurité, comme par exemple devant l'université.

Mais beaucoup de trottoirs sont en mauvais état. «C'est vrai qu'il y a là un problème», concède Salem Sawadha. «Mais cela ne dépend pas de nous. Cela concerne d'autres services, tels que le ministère de l'Équipement ou celui des Télécommunications. Mais nous faisons de notre mieux pour coordonner notre action avec celle de ces services».

Joséphine Lamm

C'est la vie

L'agenda français d'Amman

Cinéma

Soirée «De l'humour au rire», le 22 avril à 20h00 au Centre culturel français (CCF): deux films à la suite, avec, à l'entracte, un plateau repas. «Un indien dans la ville», une comédie d'Yves Robert (1994), avec Thierry Lhermitte, Patrick Timsit. «Tout le monde n'a pas la chance d'avoir des parents communistes», une comédie de Philippe Le Guay (1994) avec Josiane Balasko...

Peinture

Jusqu'au 30 avril, exposition au CCF des œuvres de Jean-Luc Gosse.

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British Council	6361478	Philadelpha Cinema	634144
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Goethe Institute	641993		
Cervantes Institute (Spanish)	610858		
Turkish Cultural Centre	639777		
Haya Arts Centre	665195		
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Y.W.M.A.	664251		
Dar al Funun	643252		
Alia Art Gallery	639303		
Baladna Art Gallery	657132		
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Nabli & Hisham's Theatre	623155		

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Hussein Medical Centre	813813
Italian-Al Muhajreen	777101/3
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THE STAR'S WORKSTATION COMPUTING & HIGH TECH NOTES

Edited by Zeid Nasser

Global One/Sprint Jordan launch event for Internet and data communications services:

Jordan is now on-line

By Zeid Nasser

UNDER the patronage of Prime Minister, Mr. Abdel Karim Kabariti, Global One/Sprint Jordan opened its exhibition of Internet and data communications services at the Amman Marriott Hotel on Saturday 13 April, 1996. The event marked the inauguration of Global One/Sprint Jordan's global data communications services.

The exhibition opened to the public on Sunday 14 and Monday 15 April.

This launch event follows the actual start of Global One/Sprint Jordan's Internet services, which was on 27 March 1996. Since that date, Global One/Sprint Jordan has had to fill so much demand for Internet on-line services in the country, to an extent that surprised the company. Apparently, Jordanian users are quite aware of the benefits to be gained from utilizing the Internet and this event proved their general enthusiasm to test the service, first hand. Here are the details regarding the prices of the Internet service from Global One / Sprint Jordan:

Individual Internet Service Plan A:

On a monthly basis, users are offered five hours of full, real-time on-line including World Wide Web surfing, E-Mail, Gopher, Chat, Archie, FTP, Finger, Telnet, with a free starter kit that comes with dialer, E-Mail and WWW browser. This will cost you JD 50.

32 a month, with every additional minute costing 100 Fils. Your Internet address will be under go.com.jo domain. The minimum time for a subscrip-



The Prime Minister at Global One / Sprint Jordan launch event last week

tion is three months and you are required to pay a JD 50 deposit.

On a yearly-basis, users are offered five hours of full, real-time on-line including World Wide Web surfing, E-Mail, Gopher, Chat, Archie, FTP, Finger, Telnet, with a free starter kit that comes with dialer, E-Mail and WWW browser. This will cost you JD 27 a month, providing a 15 percent discount with every additional minute costing 75 Fils, also providing a 25 percent discount over the previous offer. Your Internet address will be under go.com.jo domain. Advance payment is required for the year.

Individual Internet Service Plan B:

On a monthly basis, users are offered 10 hours of full, real-

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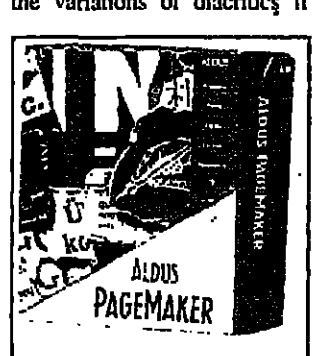
A COMPANY based in the USA, Font World Inc., is offering enhanced versions of Adobe PageMaker with special Arabic and Persian capabilities at educational prices, until the end of June 1996.

There are a host of new features in PageMaker 5.5 Middle East. The major new feature is the DecoType Professional Naskh font family and the associated DecoType Setter, which brings a new level of calligraphic variations and control never seen before in Arabic desktop publishing.

Based on linguistic expertise, historic research and computer technology, the DecoType Professional Naskh font family stands out by its unique faithfulness to the great Middle East calligraphic tradition. It includes not only the usual set of glyphs, but more than 300 variants such as alternate or extended middle forms, prolonged final forms eventually extending under the following word, and calligraphic phrases, bringing the elegance and aesthetic quality of hand-written calligraphy to computer-composed documents.

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some have been placed on the selected character. As for the enhanced cross-platform features, documents are fully exchangeable between the Macintosh and Windows versions of Adobe PageMaker 5.5-ME.

PageMaker 5.5-ME is able to include directly Arabic texts coming from several formats: Arabic DOS (Sakhr), MS Arabic Windows, Nafzia Arabic Windows, Arabic Macintosh OS. The educational price single user edition starts at \$895

and goes all the way up to \$2,395 for the 5-user Multi-Pack which includes one set manual, 5 dongles and network version disks.

There are special prices also offered for the English version 5 upgrade to Middle East edition starting at \$605, and for the English Version 4 upgrade to Middle East edition starting at \$730.

In addition, there's a special edition of the Middle Eastern version of Adobe PageMaker, Adobe PageMaker 3.05-ME, which includes all the expert capabilities associated with Adobe PhotoShop, PLUS bilingual text entry with the use of two fonts within text dialog box (i.e. Arabic and English).

For font fans, there are additional, unique fonts available for Macintosh users including Beautiful Arabic Fonts (tm) font collection, Arabic-Persian fonts and others.

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CATS signs with ARAMEX to provide ACCPAC

COMPUTER APPLICATIONS & Technical Services (CATS) has signed a contract with ARAMEX International Courier by which it will provide the latter with a complete financial and accounting solution, based on one of the leading software packages in the field, ACCPAC from Computer Associates.

"ARAMEX selected ACCPAC after careful study, which is a testimony to the package's strength as an industrial standard," commented Mr. Marwan Bataineh, deputy general manager at CATS. "For a start, ACCPAC will be implemented in 17 of ARAMEX's offices all over the world, to be used later in others. We have arranged for ARAMEX to receive full support from Computer Associates representative offices to all these countries," added Mr. Bataineh.

ACCAC is distinguished by its flexibility, as it is a multi-user system that can run under different operating system environments such as UNIX and Novell Netware, among others. Its graphical user interface (GUI) makes it easy to use and provides the power to produce timely and accurate reporting. "In a competitive environment, such as the courier business, ACCPAC can provide a competitive advantage, as it saves time and money," concluded Mr. Bataineh. By signing this agreement, ARAMEX joins a number of other Jordanian clients who depend on ACCPAC for their financial solutions, such as the Jordan Telecommunications Corp. (TCC), Global One/Sprint Jordan and others. For more information on ACCPAC and other products from Computer Associates, contact CATS telephone 824111 or fax 824110.

INTERFACE

BY ZEID NASSER

The changing face of the Jordanian computer market

IN THE past few years, Jordanian computer companies have undergone a process of change in the nature of the services which they provide, and in the types of clients they offer these services to.

With the massive increase in the number of computer companies in the country, there is a growing picture of a clear divide between the larger, better established firms, and the smaller shops and outlets.

Today, there are master-dealers for products like PCs, printers and accessories who have adopted new and advanced sales channels, by which they offer their products on a wholesale basis to the smaller companies who, in turn, supply these products to their clients. As a matter of fact, nowadays there are several master-dealers for the same products, but there is an obvious focus on their efforts to remove themselves from the direct-to-consumer channel, and focus on other areas in which their technical expertise and support capabilities are put to better use. As a result, these larger, master-dealer companies have focused on servicing larger clients, leaving the smaller, retail-oriented firms to handle single or home users.

Clients themselves sense these change and are becoming a driving factor in re-enforcing these roles.

When large or medium-size clients seek computerized solutions for their business activities, they normally contract the services of a multi-product company, capable of providing them with a complete solution incorporating hardware, software, networking and full support. These solutions are known as turn-key projects, by which one supplier handles all aspects of computerization, or automation as it is also referred to, providing the client with a final, complete set-up of all the necessary components and services. These companies have come to be known as 'solution providers'. This has created a marked difference between these companies and others who simply act as sales outlets for hardware or software products. These product sales companies have, accordingly, taken on a characteristic of mere retailers, whose responsibility ends once the items needed by the client are purchased.

Amidst these developments, there has been a rising number of 'information technology consultancy' companies who specialize in analyzing the needs of a client and, by subcontracting the services of several companies, manage to put the whole solution together. These consultancy companies are new entrants into the equation of the Jordanian computer market and appear to show much strength in certain sectors such as multi-national clients based in Jordan.

So, the market today includes different types of companies playing different roles. There are master dealers who merely supply their products to other companies; there are retail sales who sell computer products to end-users; there are also 'solution providers' who work on a contract basis to provide complete computerization projects based on their own products; and there are the 'consultancy companies' whose role is to provide recommendations for any choice of products to fill a client's needs, sometimes managing the whole process of computerization on behalf of the purchasing client.

Still, there are imbalances, as some master-dealers and 'solution providers' continue to act in the capacity of retailers who would sell separate products directly to the home user, creating a situation in which clients of such companies range from a single user set-up, all the way up to clients with installations of tens, if not hundreds, of PC systems and accessories. This is not the case in more mature computer markets in Europe, or even in other countries of the Middle East. As the Jordanian computer market develops into a mature one for computer and information technology products, you can expect to see a clearer definition, as to how companies choose to categorize their business and classify their activities. For computer companies it means more focus. For clients it means products and services that better suit their needs.

By Los Angeles Times Staff Writers

LINCOLN, MONT.—It had come to this. Sometimes he smelled. His hair was matted. He owned no car. He got around on a bike with no fenders. He lived in a cabin. He stacked his books—Shakespeare, Thackeray—against the walls. He had one door. It had three locks.

He had no running water, no electricity, he read by candlelight. He had no outdoors. He had no phone. If his family back East had an emergency, they sent a letter with a red line drawn under the stamp. Otherwise he might even ignore it. He grew parsimonious and potatoes.

He killed wild animals and boiled them over a fire in the yard. He did have, in the loft of his cabin and elsewhere, drills and bits and hacksaw blades and wire cutters and solder. He had 10 three-ring binders filled with notes and sketches. They showed the cross-sections of pipes and the circuitry of bombs. He had pieces of pipe—plastic and copper and galvanized metal. He had notes describing chemical compounds that create explosions. He had many of the chemicals. He had batteries and he had electrical wire, and he had one live bomb and another that was partly finished.

His name is Theodore John Kaczynski. He is 53 years old and in custody in a Montana jail. The FBI thinks he is the Unabomber. It is not just that he is brilliant. It is not just that he is painfully shy.

It is not just that he carries a deep burden of anger, that he

The Unabomber's talent lay in his ability to turn routine, unthinking gestures into triggers for terror. His victims were going about the heedless business of daily life when something they had done countless times before—opening a letter, picking up something they happened to find, moving a parcel somebody had left behind—became the cause of inexplicable and deadly violence.

is a loner, unable to form deep relationships with anyone; that he is highly focused, almost undistractable; that he is a perfectionist; a writer whose words are similar to those in a manuscript the Unabomber wrote last summer for national publication.

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If Theodore Kaczynski is, in fact, the Unabomber, how did it come to this?

His family called him Teddy John. He was born on May 22, 1942, in Chicago. His father, Theodore Richard Kaczynski, was known as Turk. He worked at a sausage plant. His mother, Wanda Theresa Kaczynski, was a full-time mom. Even as a child, Teddy John was brilliant.

Teddy John was a kind and thoughtful youngster. He had a younger brother, David, born in 1950.

In addition to book-learning, Turk Kaczynski taught his sons to love the outdoors. He would recall fondly for his neighbors the things that would happen when he took them on week-long camping expeditions. The Kaczynskis, father and sons, would live off the land.

In junior high school, Teddy Kaczynski exploded his first bomb.

"We would go out to an open field and I remember, Ted had the know-how of putting together things like batteries, wire leads, potassium nitrate and whatever, and creating explosions," says Dale Eickelman, now a professor of anthropology and human relations at Dartmouth College. "We would just blow up weeds. ... We would go to the hardware store, use household products and make these things you might call bombs."

Barely 16 years old, he went to Harvard. In the late 1950s, it was a men's club, wealthy, WASPy and elitist. When Ted Kaczynski, the shy, Polish-American son of a sausage maker, arrived wearing a garish plaid jacket, he was met by students who wore suits and ties to class.

Housing at Harvard was assigned during those years according to a price ladder. Ted moved into an inexpensive dorm on the wrong side of Harvard Yard.

If Ted was a misfit in high school, he virtually disappeared in college.

But Ted did well academically. He graduated in 1962 with a bachelor of arts degree in mathematics at the age 20. He was offered a teaching fellowship at the University of Michigan. When he arrived he was lean and clean-shaven and wore the coat and tie he had come to accept at Harvard. But he was out of step again: Michigan was a crucible of 1960s campus radicalism, and coats and ties were frowned upon. He spent five years at Michigan teaching algebra, calculus and analytic geometry.

He received a master's degree in mathematics in 1964. Two years into his doctoral dissertation, he discovered that the esoteric, complex mathematical problem he had chosen as his subject already had been solved. Ted hardly blinked. He took over a problem which two other professors, including George Piranian, who was his mentor, had been working on without success.

"Ted solved the problem within a year," Piranian says. "He was an independent thinker and looked at the problem a different way. I respected him highly."

He won his Ph.D. in 1967.

His brilliance at Michigan landed him a tenure-track job at the University of California, Berkeley, which had one of the best math departments anywhere.

His ability to mix with others, however, was getting even worse. Outside the classroom, protest swirled. There was Vietnam. Ronald Reagan. There was a nasty relationship between the university and the community of Berkeley.

Ted lived nearby in a tiny, dark apartment.

Additionally, then the math department chairman, says it was at the forefront of conflict. On Jan. 20, 1969 Ted sat down at a manual typewriter, rolled in a blank, white sheet of paper and wrote:

"Dear Professor Addison: 'This is to inform you that I am resigning at the end of this academic year. Thus I will not be returning in Fall, 1969.' Sincerely yours, 'T.J. Kaczynski.'"

Wednesday, May 9, 1979. Chicago John G. Harris, a 35-year-old graduate student in Northwestern University's department of civil engineer-



Kaczynski, a loner, became a hermit after 1969. The FBI alleges that he spent the next two decades sending letter bombs to strangers. He is currently under investigation

ing, was in the second-floor study room in the school's Technological Institute. He noticed a cigar box sitting on the bare table between his cubicle and the next. His lid was taped down. He reached for the container and pulled at the tape. Half way across the room, fellow student Bushan Kanihaloo heard a sound "10 times louder than a door slamming" and then a scream. "I've got to get out of here," he thought. Joel D. Meyer, a teaching assistant in a nearby classroom, dashed to the study room. There was

fire near the table and what appeared to be paper or rags scattered about. Meyer saw "a lot of wires attached to flashlight batteries. It's a bomb," he thought. He grabbed a fire extinguisher and doused the flames. As the smoke cleared, Meyer realized the floor was covered with match heads—"thousands of them." Harris was taken by ambulance to nearby Evanston Hospital and treated for minor burns and cuts. An hour later, he was released. No one knew it, but he was the first casualty in the

Unabomber's one-man campaign to bring 40,000 years of technological progress to a halt. By now Ted was in Montana. He and his brother, David, had bought a cabin site near Lincoln. It was on the edge of the Helena National Forest and lush with larches, tamaracks and Ponderosa pines.

David was living in Great Falls.

Ted lived in a tent on their property in Stemple Pass. He built his plywood cabin.

For a while, Ted's family lost track of him. Once in a while, Ted came to visit. His parents told friends he was starting a new life in the wilderness. Wednesday, May 15, 1985, Berkeley: John Hauser, a 26-year-old Air Force captain, was working on his doctorate in electrical engineering in the laboratory in Cory Hall.

He glanced at a nearby table and noticed a black, three-ring binder and a beige plastic container the size of a cigar box bound together with a rubber band. He reached over and flipped open the box. A deafening sound—more buzz than explosion filled his ears; an irresistible force jerked his arm to the right. Then there was blood everywhere. Hauser looked down: a chunk of his forearm and parts of every finger on his right hand were missing. His Air Force Academy ring had been ripped from his finger and blown against a wall six feet away.

Ted also spent time at the Lincoln library, reading newspapers and research books, including an Encyclopedia of Associations, a Who's Who and various postal guides.

The library did not get any outside papers, but Ted always asked them to order books from other libraries, often in foreign languages.

Saturday, Dec. 10, 1994, North Caldwell, N.J.: Thomas J. Mosser, the newly appointed general manager and executive vice president of Young & Rubicam, was looking forward to a day with his wife and

children.

But first, he would have to deal with the unopened mail that had piled up on the kitchen counter. Among the items was a package about the size of a videocassette, neatly wrapped in white paper. As he ripped the packing from around the box, it exploded. The blast that killed him tore a hole in the kitchen counter and filled the house with smoke. Fifteen years into his battle with progress, the Unabomber had returned to murder.

Monday, April 24, 1995, Sacramento: Shortly after 2 p.m. on a spring afternoon a clerical worker at the headquarters of the California Forestry Association put a shoe box-sized package wrapped in brown paper on the desk of the timber industry group's president, Gilbert Murray, 47. The parcel was addressed to Murray's predecessor, William Dennison. As Murray ripped at its paper cover, the bomb inside exploded with a sound like train cars colliding. Murray was dead before the echo was. The blast blew out the building's doors and windows; it brought down fixtures and ceiling tiles. The Unabomber's toll stood at three dead and 23 maimed or injured. No one knew it at the time, but Gilbert Murray may have been the last casualty in a madman's self-declared war on cars and flush toilets.

In Montana, people Ted Kaczynski was starting to slip. He seemed to withdraw even more. When his father was stricken with cancer and shot himself to death in 1990 his mother and brother told Ted about it in a letter with a red line under the postage stamp. But he objected to their use of the important-letter code. federal sources say, and he wrote back that his father's death did not warrant it.

It might have been no big thing when Ted finally learned that David had read the Unabomber's manuscript and had grown suspicious of him; that his mother had decided to move to New York to be near David and his wife, who had gotten jobs there; that David had grown more suspicious when he cleaned the Lombard home for sale and found some of Ted's writings and offered them to the FBI. Ted was lying on his cot in his cabin when an agent opened his door. "Ted," the agent said, "we need to talk."

Things are different now. That is what measures pounds. So we were included, through thought she explained.



Kaczynski, just before his disappearance back in 1969. He was an up and coming mathematics professor at the University of California in Berkeley.